Missouri Chess Bulletin

Missouri Chess Association

www.mochess.org

Volume 36 Number Two—Spring 2009 Issue

Serving Missouri Chess Since 1973

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~Volume 36 Number 2 - Spring 2009~

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The Missouri Chess Bulletin is the official publication of the Missouri Chess Association, a not-for-profit organization which promotes and supports chess in Missouri. The Missouri Chess Bulletin was founded in 1973 and is published quarterly. Unsolicited manuscripts and letters are welcome. All submissions become the property of the MCA and the MCA reserves the right to edit any and all material received for publication. Published opinions are those of contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the MCA.

- Missouri Chess Bulletin Layout and Design by Thomas R. Rehmeier -

President's Podium...

Dear readers, I hope this Spring 2009 Issue of the Missouri Chess Bulletin finds you doing well and still enjoying the game of chess. I'd like to commend Bob Howe for doing another terrific job with the Bulletin. However, what makes the MCB great are the articles submitted by you, the reader, providing the rest of Missouri's chess players with an interesting game, a neat human interest story, or reports of nearby tournaments. I'm pleased to announce that the MCA has inducted Mr. William H. Wright into the Missouri Chess Hall of Fame. He joins a very elite group of people who have had nothing but a tremendous positive effect on the game. The official induction ceremony will be held at the Missouri Open in Columbia this September. The 2009 Missouri Invitational Championship has started to take form. All of the details have been finalized and the list of qualified participants is now available on the MCA website. A total of 24 players have qualified for the event from a wide array of qualifying merits. Don't miss out on your opportunity to qualify, there are still several eligible tournaments on the calendar that you can find on page 6 of this bulletin. As mentioned in the last issue, the MCA has now officially created "Player of the Year" awards for both adult and scholastic players. Each will be awarded in three levels (gold, silver, and bronze). Missouri's Player of the Year awards will be determined based on attendance and performance at regular-rated tournaments requiring MCA membership. (2 pts for each event, 1 for each win and .5 for each draw.) Details on the scholastic awards are on page 8. All presentations will also be made at the Missouri Open and Chess Festival. It is the hope of the MCA to encourage increased participation at tournaments state wide. Well, that's all I have for this issue. Good luck in all of your future chess endeavors.

Thank you for your continued support of the MCA,

Thomas R. Rehmeier
President
Missouri Chess Association

Call for Nominations

As a Missouri Chess Association member, you are invited to submit nominations for the annual election of members for the MCA Board of Directors. Nominees must be residents of the state of Missouri, 16 years or older (as of April 15th) and current MCA members. If elected, nominees would serve a term beginning on September 1, 2008. Self-nominations are welcomed and encouraged. Board Members are expected to be current MCA members, attend board meetings held in Columbia (Currently 4 times per year) and the general membership meeting at the Missouri Open in September 2009. **The deadline for nominations is May 1, 2009**. Election ballots will be mailed out by June 1 to MCA members in good standing as of May 1, 2009. Send your nominations to

Jim Davies, Election Commissioner, 7358 Shaftsbury Ave, Saint Louis, MO 63130

or email them to jandadavies@sbcglobal.net. Nominations must include the nominee's name and region (or mailing address)

From The Editor

Greetings Missouri Chess Players, I'm happy to bring you a packed edition of the Spring Missouri Chess Bulletin. We have some great articles from regular contributors including Bob Holliman, Selden Trimble, Thomas Rehmeier and Ron Luther. We also have a special story this edition by Al Lawrence. Mr. Lawrence, a former USCF President who lived in Missouri for many years, was back in the state for the Mid-America Open. He wrote an extensive report on that event and about the SLCCSC for the USCF online magazine. I enjoyed meeting him at the event, and he has graciously agreed to publish some writings in the MCB. His article this time is a topic that's long overdo for the Bulletin, a biography of Mr. Rex Sinquefield, founder of the St. Louis Chess Club and benefactor for the US Championship.

Of course the biggest news in Missouri chess is that the United States Championship is now only weeks away! I hope many of you will have the chance to attend the event with me. A full listing of the incredibly strong field, a schedule of events, and a summary of the action is included in this bulletin.

On a more local level, I'm also looking forward to Missouri's Championship this fall. The new Invitational format promises an exciting weekend of top level chess, while giving many more players a chance at competing for the title. Upcoming events that are guaranteed to award a spot in the contest include the St. Louis Open, on April 25th & 26th, the Greater Kansas City Open on May 30th, and the Missouri Class Championship on June 27th & 28th. There are also several tournaments that will award a spot as long as they meet the 20 player minimum. These include the Show Me Classic on May 23-24 at the St. Louis Chess Club, and the Columbia Open on August 15th. I hope to see you at a many of these great events. If you are able to attend, then feel free to send along a game or story about the event, we'd love to hear from you.

Bob Howe
Editor

Look for these stories and more in the Upcoming Summer Edition of the MCB

- Results and reports from the US Championship.
- Tournament report from Missouri's heritage event, the St. Louis Open
- Tournament report from the 2009 Missouri Class Championship held in Columbia.
- Many more articles, annotated games, and interesting stories from YOU! The members that make up the MCA.

Deadline for the articles and games for the Spring issue is July 1st, 2008.

MCB Material Submissions:

The MCB is Missouri's Official Chess Publication, for and by the members of the Missouri Chess Association. Your help providing material for the MCB will be much appreciated. All submissions become the property of the MCA and the MCA reserves the right to edit any and all material received for publication.

Please send material for the MCB, including but not limited to:

- annotated games (PGN format is preferred, but others can be used)
- articles written by members
- articles from outside sources, with permission for republication
- pictures (with captions please)
- historical items
- scoresheets
- chess related quotes, sayings, and jokes
- or just about anything else you would like to contribute that's appropriate

All contributions that are true, fair, and builds goodwill and better friendships among the membership will be published. Thanks so much to all those who have contributed.

Recent News in Missouri Chess:

Former U.S. Women's champion Jennifer Shahade recently visited the St. Louis Chess Club & Scholastic Center. Ms. Shahade, the current editor of the USCF's online news source, Chess Life Online, is helping organize the upcoming U.S. Open Championship. The WGM played a number of blitz simuls with club members. She took on five players at a time, with 10 minutes on her clock versus five for each of her opponents. It was reported that the hard working Shahade achieved a very respectable score of 11-2-2, and a quality cardiovascular workout during the simul.

WGM Shahade will be back in St. Louis prior to the kickoff of the US Championship in early May. There are plans for her to hold another simul and will be present at the opening of Marcel Duchamp Art Exhibit at St. Louis University on May 6th.

The Continental Chess Association has announced it intends to return to St. Louis in 2010. The Mid-America Open exceeded the goal attendance of 200 players for the second year in a row, which the organization had set as a bell weather mark on planning a return trip. The group hasn't yet finalized plans, but expect a return in or near March of next year.

Congratulations to these recent Missouri Tournament Winners:

Winter Open: Kevin D Johnson 4/4

Steinitz Open: Joanna Gossell 3/3
Steven Guilford 3/3

Leap your Rating: Nathaniel Fast 5/5

Mid America Open:
Open Section GM Alejandro Ramirez 5/5
Top Missouri finishers: IM M Brooks, Charles Lawton, James McLaughlin
U/2000 Division: Paul Mecham 4.5/5 Top MO: Isaiah Gadson
U/1800 Division: Mike Mei 4.5/5 Top MO: Tim Nesham
U/1600 Division: Charles Stewart 5/5 Top MO: James Smith
U/1400 Division: Stephen Zhang (MO) 4.5/5
U/1200 Division: Duane Powell (MO) 4.5/5
U/900 Division: Jonah Smith (MO) 5/5

Mizzou Quads: Quad A: Ron Luther Quad B: Thomas Rehmeier & Milt Garber
Quad C: Tim Campbell & Charlie Ward

Joplin Open: Daniel Todd 5/5

March Madness: G/5—Joseph Garnier G/10—Kevin Johnson
G/29—Open: Kevin Cao Reserve: William Thompson

UPCOMING

April 25th-26th—St. Louis Open - St. Louis **MO Invitational Qualifier**
5SS,G/120. Location: Chess Club & Scholastic Center of Saint Louis, 4657 Maryland Ave., St. Louis, MO 63108 Prizes: $300 first place Guaranteed. $150 each X,A,B,C,D,E,U 1000/Unr. b/60 Entry Fee $40 received by 4/17. $50 on site. K-12 may enter at half fee but are eligible for only half of class prize. Reg: 8:30-9:30. Round times: Sat: 10 - 2:30 - 7; Sun: 9:30 - 2 MCA membership req'd for MO residents, Adv. Info/Entries: Missouri Chess Association, 7138 Lindenwood, St. Louis, MO 63109 314-645-2897

May 7th—17th United States Championships! - see page 11
The Chess Club and Scholastic Center of Saint Louis will be hosting the 2009 United States Chess Championships. A premiere group of GM's and dignitaries are expected. Visit www.saintlouischessclub.org for the latest details.

May 23rd-24th Show-Me Classic - St. Louis *6 Grand Prix Points!*
5SS, G/90, two sections - Open & U1600. Chess Club & Scholastic Center, 4657 Maryland Ave. St. Louis MO 63108. EF: $50, $40 for annual members. MCA Membership Req'd. Prizes: Guaranteed 1st, b/40 2nd-5th. Each section $300-200-150-100-50. Reg: 10-10:50, Rounds: Sat 11, 2:15, 5:30, Sun 12, 3:15. One 1/2 pt bye if declared before round one. Entries/Info: 4657 Maryland Ave., St. Louis, MO 63108, 314-361-CHESS, info@saintlouischessclub.org.

May 30th Greater Kansas City Open - Independence (KC) **MO Invitational Qualifier**
4SS G/60. Noland Road Baptist Church, 4505 S Noland Road., Independence MO 64055. EF: $20. Prizes: 4-0=$80, 3.5=$40, 3=$20, 2.5=$10. On site registration 8:30-9:30 am. Round times 10, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45. No computers, No smoking. USCF Membership Required. MCA Membership required of MO residents. All site entries and memberships must be paid in cash. Advance entries: Bob Holliman, PO Box 1871, Independence, MO 64055

June 13th—Emmanuel Lasker Open - Columbia
3SS, G/75. Memorial Union room N208, 518 Hitt St., Columbia, MO. Directions: From I-70 exit 126, south on Providence, east on Rollins, north on Hitt. Entry fee: $1, NO PRIZES-Just the satisfaction of playing well. Reg: 9:30-10:15. Rds: 10:30-1:15-4:00. Entries/Info: Charles Ward, 2400 Cimarron Drive, Columbia, MO 65203, 573-443-6685 <czar8196@tranquility.net>

June 20th—CCSCSL Super Team Championship - St. Louis
4SS, G/60, Chess Club & Scholastic Center, 4657 Maryland Ave., St. Louis, MO 63108. EF: $75 for 3 person team, $60 for 3 person team that are all annual members. MCA Membership Req'd. Prize Fund (b/15 teams): $900: Championship Team: $500. 1st place team with aggregate rating below 4800, $400. Trophy to top teams in each section. Unrated players considered 1100. No alternates. Reg: 9:30-10:20. Rds: 10:30, 12:45, 3:00, 5:00. No 1/2 pt byes. Info: 314-361-CHESS, info@saintlouischessclub.org.

June 27th-28th—Missouri Class Championships - Columbia **MO Invitational Qualifier**
5SS, G/120; Columbia Inn, 3100 I-70 Dr SE, Columbia, MO; Prizes: b/7 per class: $100-1st, $50-2nd, each. Missouri State Championship Plaque to winner of each section: Seven Sections: M/X, A, B, C, D, E, U1000/Unr; Players play only those in their own Class. (small sections may be combined) M/X winner receives spot in the 2009 Missouri Invitational. Scholastic players in the U1000/Unr. may enter for half fee but are eligible for only half prizes. Reg: 8:30-9:30; Rounds: Sat-10-2:30-7, Sun-9:30-2. EF: $30 if marked by 6/20, $35 at site. Site entries cash only. Max 1 half bye; MCA required, O.S.A., available on site from $5. Hotel: $69 night, Free Wi-Fi & free breakfast w/ hotel room 573-474-6161, mention CHESS. Entries/Info: Bob Howe, 4403 Gage Pl. Columbia, MO 65203 (636) 234.7928

July 18th—St. Louis Premiere & Amateur - St. Louis
Two sections, Premiere & Amateur (U 1600) 5SS G/60, Chess Club & Scholastic Center, 4657 Maryland Ave., St. Louis, MO 63108. Entry Fee: $40, $30 for annual members. MCA Membership req'd, from $5. Prizes: (b/40) each section: $225-150-100-75-50 (1st-5th), Registration: 9-9:50, Rds: 10, 12:15, 2:30, 4:30, 7. One 1/2pt bye if declared before rd 1. Info: 314-361-CHESS, info@saintlouischessclub.org.

August 8th—Dog Days Open - St. Louis
St. Louis 4SS, G/60, Chess Club & Scholastic Center, 4657 Maryland Ave. Saint Louis MO 63108. EF: $25, $20 for annual members. MCA Membership Req'd from $5. OSA. Prizes: (b/40): $750: $100 1st/ $25 2nd in each M/X, A, B,

TOURNAMENTS

C, D, U1200. Reg: 9 - 9:50. Rds: 10, 12:15, 2:30, 4:30. One 1/2 pt bye if declared before round 1. Entries: 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108 314-361-CHESS, info@saintlouischessclub.org

August 15th—Columbia Open - Columbia
4SS, G/75; Best Western Inn, 3100 I-70 Dr SE, Columbia, MO 65201; Prizes: $500 b/30: $150 1st, $100 2nd, $75 each U1800, U1500, U1200, Upset prize, $25. Reg: 9-9:45am ; Round times: 10, 1, 3:30, 6:30 Entry Fee: $20 rec'd by 8/8, $25 on site. Site entries cash only. Max 1 half pt bye; MCA required, available on site from $5. Entries/Info: Bob Howe, 4403 Gage Pl. Columbia, MO 65203, (636) 234.7928 (if 20+ participants, winner qualifies for MO Invitational)

August 29th—Jose Capablanca Open - Columbia
3SS, G/75. Memorial Union room N208, 518 Hitt St., Columbia, MO. Directions: From I-70 exit 126, south on Providence, east on Rollins, north on Hitt. Entry fee: $1, NO PRIZES-Just the satisfaction of playing well. Reg: 9:30-10:15. Rds: 10:30-1:15-4:00. Entries/Info: Charles Ward, 2400 Cimarron Drive, Columbia, MO 65203, 573-443-6685 <czar8196@tranquility.net>

September 5th-6th—St. Louis District Championship - St. Louis *20 Grand Prix Points!*
5SS, G/120, Chess Club & Scholastic Center, 4657 Maryland Ave. Saint Louis MO 63108. EF: $60, $50 for annual members of the club. MCA Membership Req'd from $5. OSA. PF $$GTD $2500: 1st overall $650, 2nd overall $475, 1st each A, B, C, D, U1200 $275. Reg: 9-9:50, Rds: Sat 10, 2, 6 Sun 10, 2. Accelerated pairings used. One 1/2 point bye if declared before round 1. Ent: 4657 Maryland Ave., Saint Louis, MO 63108 314-361-CHESS, info@saintlouischessclub.org

****SEPTEMBER 25TH-27TH MISSOURI CHESS FESTIVAL** -** COLUMBIA

- **2009 Missouri Open:** 5SS, G/120. Best Western Columbia Inn, 3100 I-70 Dr. SE, Columbia, MO. **Prizes b/40**: $250-1st Overall + Plaque (Top MO resident earns spot in 2010 Missouri Championship), $120-1st in each M/X, A, B, C, D, E, U1000/Unr. **EF:** $40 by 9/19, $50 on site. Site entries cash only. **Reg:** 10-10:45am. Rounds: Sat-11/3:30/8, Sun-10:30/3. Max one ½-pt bye. MCA General Membership meeting 9:30-10:15am Sun.
- **Missouri State Invitational Championship**: In conjunction with Missouri Open, by invitation.
  Entry Fee: $40. **Prizes b/20**: $500-1st, $250-2nd, $125-3rd. Eligible participants are as follows:
  - MO Heritage Event winners (St. Louis Open, Greater KC Open, MO Class (M/X), MO Open).
  - Qualifying tournament winners
  - Previous Missouri State Champions (from past 10 years).
  - Missouri 2009 Denker and Polgar representatives.
  - Any Missouri resident rated 2200+ USCF.
  - Complete list of qualified participants available at www.mochess.org/Invitational.htm
- **Missouri Quick Championship:** 4SS, G/29 (QR). **Prizes:** b/20, $75-1st Overall + Plaque, $50-1st U1600. **Reg:** 6:30-7pm Friday. Rounds: 7/8/9/10pm. **EF:** $10 by 9/19, $15 on site.
- **Missouri Bughouse Championship:** 5-Double rounds, G/5. **Prizes:** b/12 teams, $50-1st Team, $30-2nd Team. Plaques awarded to top team. (Both players must be MO residents to receive title.) **Reg:** 8-8:15am Sat. Rounds will be paired as quickly as time allows, ending by 10am. **EF:** $10/team, on site only.
- **Missouri Blitz Championship:** 5SS, G/5 (QR). **Prizes**: $75-1st + plaque, $50-2nd, $25-3rd. **EF:** $10. **Reg:** 8-8:15am Sunday. Rounds will be paired as quickly as time allows, ending by 9:30am.
- **MCA Scholastic:** 5SS, G/30 USCF Rated. **Prizes:** Trophies awarded to top 3 scorers in each section: HS, K-8, K-6, K-3. Play only those in your section. **EF:** $10 by 9/19, $15 on site. **Reg:** 9-10am Saturday. Rounds: 10:30/11:45/1:15/2:30/3:45. Awards Ceremony: 5:15pm.
- In order to receive a Championship title/plaque you must be a Missouri resident. MCA membership required for all events except MCA Scholastic & Bughouse, available on site from $5, O.S.A. **HR:** $69/night, free Wi-Fi & Hot breakfast, 573-474-6161, mention CHESS. **Entries/Info:** Thomas Rehmeier, 5217 Denice Street, Jefferson City, MO 65109. JCChess89@yahoo.com, 573-291-0852.

Visit www.mochess.org/Tournaments.htm for an up-to-date calendar of Missouri chess events.

Scholastic Schedule

May 9th—May Class Tournament: Columbia
Parkade Center, Columbia, Open to Scholastic players up to 12th grade for the 2008-2009 school year. Entry Fee $15. Registration 9am-9:45am. Rounds at 10am, 11:15am, and 12:30pm. Awards ceremony at 2pm. Rounds and Award times may be accelerated as play allows. Players will be grouped in rating classes for competition and awards, Some classes may be merged for pairing purposes only as needed. Info: Tim Campbell **573-696-0082**

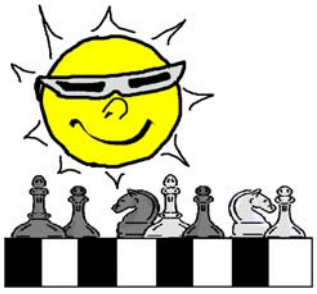
Here's the information for the first scholastic tournament of the 2009-2010 school year:

September 26th MCA Scholastic - Columbia
Five round G/30 USCF rated. Best Western Columbia Inn, 3100 I-70 Drive SE, Columbia, MO 65201 Registration 9-10am, Entry Fee: $10 pre-registered by 9/19, or $15 on site. Round times 10:30, 11:45, 1:15, 2:30, 3:45. Award Ceremony 5:15. Trophies awarded to top three finishers in each section. Sections: HS, K-8, K-6, K-3. Players only play those in their own section. Free Wi-Fi available for parents in the skittles area.
**The Missouri State Bughouse Championship occurs at the same location at 8am. Scholastic teams welcome. Entry Fee: $10/team. Entries/info: Thomas Rehmeier, 5217 Denice St., Jefferson City, MO 65109 <JCChess89@yahoo.com>

Be Sure to visit www.Gatewaychess.org for updates on the 2009-2010 scholastic calendar.

Summer Chess Camps

USA Chess Camps - http://www.chesscamp.com
1. June 29-July 2nd or 3rd, St. Louis, MO: 5-day camp. Mary Institute St. Louis Country Day School 101 North Warson Road, St. Louis, MO 63124.
2. July 13 - 17, 2009, St. Louis MO New City School 5209 Waterman Blvd., St. Louis, MO 63108



6th Annual Grandmaster Yury Shulman's Summer Chess Camps - Barrington, Illinois June 15-19 and July 27-31, 2009. Detailed information is available from http://www.shulmanchess.com/

Anatoly Karpov Chess School Chess Camps - Lindsborg, Kansas - Session I, July 12-17, 2009; Session II, July 19-24, 2009. Lead instructor GM Varuzhan Akobian. www.anatolykarpovchessschool.org.

New Awards for Scholastic Chess Players!

Starting this year, the Missouri Chess Association will be recognizing scholastic players in the state exemplifying dedication to chess, improvement, and activity with a new set of awards:

Gold Scholastic Player of the Year
Silver Scholastic Player of the Year
Bronze Scholastic Player of the Year

Criteria for awards include but is not limited to: significant improvement in playing ability/strength (rating is not the sole factor), tournament activity, and coach's recommendation.

Coaches: If you have a player who you believe should be considered for recognition, please send a recommendation to the member of Player of the Year Committee from your MCA region: Matt Angeli (Region I/STL), Ron Luther (Region II/KC), Tim Campbell (Region III/Rest of State)

Awards will be announced in early September and presented at the Missouri Open and Chess Festival.

Membership & Subscriptions

A one-year membership in the Missouri Chess Association includes a subscription to the quarterly *Missouri Chess Bulletin* chess publication, available in electronic or hard-copy, as well as eligibility to play in MCA-sponsored tournaments, including State Championship titled events.

MEMBERSHIP OPTIONS	COST (1 YR)
Regular *Ages 25+; Includes hard-copy MCB.*	$12.00
Scholastic *Under 25; Includes hard-copy MCB.*	$8.00
Electronic (Economy) *Provides online MCB access.* ***Email address required.*	$5.00
Family *2 Adults & children under 25* *Provides one hard-copy MCB.*	$18.00
Scholastic Family *All children under 25.*	$12.00

If you would like to join the MCA, please fill out a membership form *(available at mochess.org)* and mail it along with dues to the MCA Membership Coordinator:

Nathaniel Fast
630 Broadway
Jefferson City, MO 65101
<nathanielfast@yahoo.com>

Be sure to include your E-mail address to receive tournament announcements and notices when the new issue of the MCB is released. For more information, please visit *http://www.mochess.org/* and click the Join Us' link.

MCA Board Of Directors & Officers 2008-2009

REGION 1—SAINT LOUIS

Edward C. Baur: 7138 Lindenwood, St. Louis, MO 63109. 314-645-2897. *<ecbaur@gmail.com>*

John F. Wiedner (Secretary): 12545 Olive Blvd. #254, Creve Coeur, MO 63141. 314-952-4183. *<jfwiedner@medsys.net>*

Matt Angeli 4611 Starview Dr. St. Louis, MO 63128 314-315-0222 *<mja.inc@gmail.com>*

REGION 2—KANSAS CITY

Bob Holliman: P.O. Box 1871, Independence, MO 64055. 816-836-0568. *<chess_entries@comcast.net>*

Ronald Luther: 5205 Country Side Lane, Blue Springs, MO 64015. 816-769-9576. *<ronluther@sbcglobal.net>*

John Sutton (Vice President), 3608 Randall Drive, Independence, MO 64055. 816-478-3946. *<jsutton@indep.k12.mo.us>*

REGION 3—REST OF STATE

Timothy V. Campbell: 6104 E. Sharon Lane, Columbia, MO 65202. 573-696-0082. *<TRJCamp@aol.com>*

Bob Howe: 4403 Gage Place, Columbia, MO 65203. 573-445-5458. *<bdhowe@yahoo.com>*

Thomas R. Rehmeier (President): 5217 Denice Street, Jefferson City, MO 65109. 573-291-0852. *<T.Rehmeier@yahoo.com>*

The stronger a player is, the more likely he is to begin by saying "I don't know" when you ask him what is happening in a position. *~Jonathan Rowson*

U.S. Championship

Coming to Saint Louis

Details of the United States Chess Federation's 2009 US Championship continue to come in. The exciting event is now only weeks away. The opening round begins on Friday May 8th, with games beginning most days at 2pm. The final round takes place on Sunday May 17th, with a player rest day planned for Friday the 15th.

The event has confirmed the participation of many of the strongest players in the country, including the three highest ranked USCF members. Gata Kamsky, recent world championship challenger, and the United States number one player leads the talented field. The always exciting Hikaru Nakamura, holder of the record for the youngest American Grandmaster is another big draw. Grandmaster Nakamura took the youngest GM title away from the immortal Bobby Fischer, who was also the last man to record a perfect score at a US Championship. The event will feature an amazing bonus prize of $64,000 if any player can match that performance by winning out at this year! Going 9-0 seems an unlikely scenario given the fierce competition, but it will sure make things interesting if someone goes deep into the tournament on a winning streak.

Two Thousand Eight Champion Yuri Shulman, 2007 Champion Alex Shabalov, and 2006 Champion Alexander Onischuk are also confirmed to be back after another crown. GM Onischuk is the third highest player in the event by rating, and is coming off some great results in some overseas events, making him a popular choice to take the title.

The Chess Club & Scholastic Center also had a number of Wildcard spots to fill, and they looked mainly to local talent and youth to fill those slots. Missouri's top player, International Master Michael Brooks will be playing, as well as St. Louis's local legend Charles Lawton. Missourians are looking forward to seeing our local players go head to head with the best in the nation. I'm sure these guys will be well supported by the spectators at the club. IM Brooks just had a solid showing at the Mid-America Open, losing only one game to tournament winner GM Alejandro Ramirez. Lawton looks to be out ranked and out of practice at first glance, but be wary of judging him too quickly. While his resume of rated play is slim in recent years, he's remained an avid player and teacher, and has had plenty of success against top tier competition in the past. I'd be shocked if he doesn't score a few upsets before the competition concludes.

Up and coming stars like IM Ray Robson, and GM elect Robert Hess also received Wildcard invites. These players have been making a big splash in the last year, and will be exciting players to watch as they match up against the best of the best American chess has to offer. Robert Hess, officially an IM still, has secured two GM norms in the last month alone, including a win with black against GM Nakamura at the recent Foxwoods Open. GM's Alexander Shabalov and GM Josh Friedel round out the Wildcard selections. Both are known as fighting players, and should provide some great action at the event.

For those interested in coming to the club and seeing some close up action, ticket reservations are now available on the CCSCSL website at http://saintlouischessclub.org.

America's Best are coming in May…Are you?

Participants in the 2009 US Championships:

GM Varuzhan Akobian	Rating	GM Gata Kamsky	Rating
GM Julio Becerra	Rating	GM Melik Khachivan	Rating
GM Joel Benjamin	Rating	IM Irina Krush	Top Female
IM Michael Brooks	Wildcard	NM Charles Lawton	Wildcard
GM Larry Christiansen	Rating	GM Hikaru Nakamura	Rating
GM Jaan Ehlvest	Rating	GM Alexander Onischuk	Rating
GM Josh Friedel	Wildcard	IM Ray Robson	Wildcard
GM Boris Gulko	Rating	IM Sam Shankland	Qualifier (States Champion)
GM-Elect Robert Hess	Wildcard	IM Enrico Sevillano	Qualifier (2008 US Open)
NM Tyler Hughes	Qualifier (Junior Closed)	GM Alexander Shabalov	Wildcard
GM Ildar Ibragimov	Rating	GM Yury Shulman	Defending Champion
GM Gregory Kaidanov	Rating	IM Anna Zatonskih	Top Female

**for a complete listing with bios, see http://saintlouischessclub.org/US-Championship-2009-Player-Bios/

Schedule of Events:

Wednesday May 6th, Special Event:
Opening of Marcel Duchamp Exhibit
at St. Louis University

Round One: Friday May 8th
2:00pm— 8:00pm

Round Two: Saturday May 9th
2:00pm— 8:00pm

Round Three: Sunday May 10th
2:00pm— 8:00pm

Round Four: Monday May 11th
2:00pm— 8:00pm

Round Five: Tuesday May 12th
2:00pm— 8:00pm

Round Six: Wednesday May 13th
2:00pm— 8:00pm

Round Seven: Thursday May 14th
2:00pm— 8:00pm

Round Eight: Saturday May 16th
11:00am— 5:00pm

Final Round: Sunday May 17th
10:00am— 4:00pm
5:00pm-7:00pm Play-Off
7:00pm-9:00pm Closing Ceremony and Reception

Wall Street Brings Chess to the Main Street

Wall Street Brings Chess to the Main Street

~ Al Lawrence ~

Most of the fun has gone out of reading about the super-rich. "Wall Street versus Main Street" is a constant media mantra. We're shown fund managers and investment bankers perp-walking or being grilled by a congressional subcommittee, shaming the greedy traders who brought all of us down with their short-term get-rich schemes.

There are understandable reasons for this billionaire-bashing. But Rex Sinquefield is a different kind of "Wall Street" success. And neither *short-term* nor *greed* are words that apply. He made his millions by founding a Santa Monica firm that structured solid, long-term investments in real companies. Now in retirement, he's giving back big-time to his native Saint Louis—and is sponsoring his lifelong passion, chess.

A life right out of Dickens

Even the fortunate flush now roll only half as high as they did in mid-2007. Many American companies, facing the cycle of downturns and layoffs and further downturns, are shrinking from charitable contributions. In this context, chess benefactor Rex Sinquefield is remarkable. Truth is, Rex would be pretty remarkable in any context. In fact, Charles Dickens would have loved to write Sinquefield's life story, which features the kind of tear-jerking life-challenges the novelist loved—a cleft palate, life in an orphanage, a difficult personal choice between the Church and business, and a broken back—just to list a few. Not to mention the rags-to-riches resolution.

Following his father's death, little Rex moved from his protective home and family, a seven-year-old's whole world, to a crowded, nun-strict orphanage in the northwest St. Louis suburb of Normandy. Some rise to meet adversity. Young Rex flourished, especially in competitive contexts, covering any personal pain with wisecracks and grins, not tears. Deciding early to become a priest but always interested in the stock market, he entered the seminary owning $200 of stock in Great Northern Paper. Three years later, he changed course, majoring in philosophy and business at St. Louis University.

After a hitch in the Vietnam-era army, he enrolled in the University of Chicago's MBA program, where he studied under, among others, future Nobel Laureate Merton Miller. Rex went on in 1973 to pioneer the first passively managed indexing S&P 500 fund. An "index" fund is set up to reflect, not to try to outperform, the market in general. It's "passive" because an investor lets his savings ride—resisting the urge to constantly churn and change his picks. Thus he avoids the risks of guessing at the future fluctuations of individual corporations. The idea is, in a way, the opposite of the overly sophisticated and risky investment approaches often blamed for our current financial problems. Indexing funds became a staple for the growing sector of middleclass investors who had their own, non-financial jobs to worry about and wanted their savings to grow long-term—

Rex Sinquefield, playing the Sicilian in a simul game against Jennifer Shahade. World Youth representative Margaret Hua looks on.

at the same time, the billions in funds provided a dependable source of working capital to American companies.

Interior view of the Chess Club's second floor

In 1981, Rex co-founded and, with his wife Jeanne, a Ph.D. in economics, ran his own company, Dimensional Fund Advisors. When he retired in 2005, he had helped many others to make money—and had made a lot himself. Now he is an important and eclectic benefactor—of the St. Louis Opera Theatre, its art museum, symphony, botanical gardens, and numerous other charitable causes. But his passion is chess. And that passion brought Wall Street to Main Street in St. Louis.

Sinquefield is a real chess enthusiast. He told me that once, years ago, he was on a trans-Pacific flight that happened to also be carrying Bobby Fischer and then-FIDE-president Florencio Campomanes. Rex instantly recognized Fischer, but Campo warned Sinquefield that Bobby was in a foul mood, not even talking to his traveling partner. "But you can try," Campo said. Even when faced with the force that cracked the biggest egos, Sinquefield couldn't pass up an opportunity to meet the greatest ever, and he knew his audience. He stopped by Fischer's seat. "I hope you beat those commies," he told Fischer. The champ came out of his pout. "I will," Bobby said.

Sinquefield is a real player as well. He studies with two-time U.S. women's champ Jennifer Shahade. Here's Rex crashing through in a position from a recent game on the online slow chess server, gameknot:

Staring position

In this closed position derived from a Nimzo-Indian defense, Rex expertly exploits his good knight vs. bad bishop edge. **26...Nb7 27.a6 Nd8 28.h4 f6 29.h5 Nf7 30.Be2 Ne5 31.Kf2 Kh7 32.Qd1** *(diagram left)*
It's hard to make immediate progress, so Rex patiently creates a two-rook battery on the g-file. **32...Rg7 33.Qh1 Rag8 34.Qg1 Qe8 35.Qh1 g4 36.fxg4 Nxg4+ 37.Bxg4 Rxg4 38.Rxg4 Rxg4 39.Qh2 Qe5 40.Rg1** *(diagram right bottom)*

Position after 32. Qd1

40...Rg5! *A really nice backwards creeping move, agreeing to trade rooks but only on his own terms. 40...Rxg1 actually loses to 41.Qxg1 with the crushing threat of Qg6+.* **41.Kf3** *If 41...Rxg5 hxg5 and Black will win either the e4 or c3 pawn.* **41...Qxc3+ 42.Kxf4 Qe5+ 0–1**

Position after Rg1

Al Lawrence is the author of more than a dozen books on chess and science and is executive editor of GM Lev Alburt's Comprehensive Chess Course. His latest, with Alburt, is Chess Training Pocket Book II: 320 Key Positions.

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Mid-America Open

~ Thomas R. Rehmeier ~

The Continental Chess Association returned to the state of Missouri for the 13th Annual Mid-America Open from March 13-15 at the Crowne Plaza in Clayton. For the second year in a row the tournament drew above the 200 player mark with a grand total of 210 in seven sections. Big names like IM Michael Brooks, FM Doug Eckert, and NM Charles Lawton returned to tournament play after extended periods of inactivity ready to take home their due share of the $12,000 prize fund and 100 Grand Prix Points. The tournament once again offered the classical tournament feel with the 40/2 SD1 time control that allowed many Missourians to deeply calculate their way to upsetting some of the country's top class players. GM Alejandro Ramirez won the tournament for the second consecutive year posting another outstanding perfect 5-0 score. Missouri's top two players, IM Michael Brooks and NM Charles Lawton finished with 3.5/5 in the Open section, as did expert James McLaughlin. Paul Mechum of Illinois took sole first in the Under 2000 with 4.5/5. Top Missourians in this section included Isaiah Gadson (4 points and reached 1900 for the first time), Nathan Swinger, Darius Masuhud, and Jialin Ding who all finished with 3.5/5. Tim Nesham of the Saint Louis area cashed in the Under 1800 with 4.0/5 with Brad Herbst and Bob Howe close behind with 3.5/5. In the Under 1600, young James Smith of Lamar, Missouri scored 4.0/5 and also brought home some prize money. Missouri almost ran away with the Under 1400 section, Stephen Zhang took home the entire first place cash prize with 4.5/5. Jake Amann, Mike Finkelstein, and Chansamone Khotsyphom split for second with 4/5. Both Jake and Mike broke 1400 for the first time as well. Robert Luckey finished with 4 points in the Under 1200 section to take home a share of prize money. The Mid-America Open Under 900 section saw several people from Missouri take home some hardware, Jonah Smith swept the section for a fantastic first place finish. Others who received trophies from the section were: Alvin Smith (2nd), Dominic Station (5th), Lucas Johnson (6th), and Jason Ding (7th). I wish I could report that I took home several hundreds of dollars but I played up two sections to the Open in search of rating points. For the second year in a row, the money has been well spent. After 2 draws against experts and a win over another, I jumped 52 points to hit my all-time high of 1817. Overall I believe that the tournament was a complete success, and I look forward to playing again next year. Thank you to the Continental Chess Association's Steve Immitt and Wayne Clark for organizing and directing a fine event. Photos courtesy of Al Lawrence.

GM Gurevich going over Margaret Hua's game

Under 1400 Winners

Here are some of the top rating increases from the this year's Mid-America Open:

	Pre-Rate	Post-Rate	Change
Jonah Smith	863	1079**	+216
Dominic Station	759	902**	+143
Suhas Bobba	983	1123**	+140
Duane Powell	1125	1263**	+138
Jake Amann	1252	1389**	+137
Robert Luckey	1113	1223	+110
James Smith	1490	1587**	+97
Isaiah Gadson	1814	1906**	+92
Bob Howe	1648	1724**	+76
Jialin Ding	1843	1899**	+56

** Career Rating High

Top Ten Excuses for Losing!

from the Exeter Club Website

1. Dog ate Scoresheet
2. Dead batteries in my hidden transmitter
3. Went outside for fresh air, forgot about tournament
4. Disturbed by my own reflection in opponent's sunglasses
5. Still despondent over 1964 death of Fred Reinfeld
6. Inexplicably confused ECO A29 line 13 note 87C with ECO A13 note 87C, lost Queen.
7. Unlucky pairing against my historical nemesis G. Kasparov
8. During play, pondered both sides of USCF lawsuit dilemmas, lost on time.
9. Studied book *How to Beat Bobby Fischer*, was unprepared for other opponents
10. After making move, accidentally punched opponent instead of clock.

2009 Missouri Class Championship — June 27 & 28, 2009

Missouri State Championship Qualifying Event

- **Location:** Best Western Columbia Inn, 3100 I-70 Dr. SE, Columbia, MO 65201
- **Format:** 5-Round Standard Swiss, Game/120
- **Sections:** Seven Sections, players play only those in their own sections. (small sections may be merged for pairing purposes)
  - Master/Expert (2000+)
  - Class A (1800-1999)
  - Class B (1600-1799)
  - Class C (1400-1599)
  - Class D (1200-1399)
  - Class E(1000-1199)
  - Novice Class - Rated under 1000 and Unrated
  - *Players are allowed to "play up" to a higher section*
- **Prizes:** $100-1st, $50-2nd in each class: Master/Expert, A, B, C, D, E, and Under 1000 (based on 7 in each class). Winners of each section receive state champion plaque.
  Master/Expert winner receives a spot in the 2009 MO State Invitational Championship
- **Registration:** 8:30-9:30.
- **Round Times:** Saturday 10:00, 2:30, & 7:00, Sunday 9:30 & 2:00.
- **Entry Fee:** $30 if postmarked by 6/20. $35 on site, cash only on site. Scholastic players in the U/1000 section may pay half entry fee but are eligible for only half prizes.
- MCA membership required for Missouri residents, available on site from $5.
- **Hotel Rate:** $69/night, free WI-FI & free breakfast with hotel room. 573-474-6161, mention CHESS when reserving your room. (we have had trouble in the past with players trying to reserve rooms online with this hotel, please call if you are unable to get a room online!)
- **Entries/Info:** Bob Howe, 4403 Gage Place, Columbia, MO 65203; 636-234-7928 or send email to bdhowe@yahoo.com

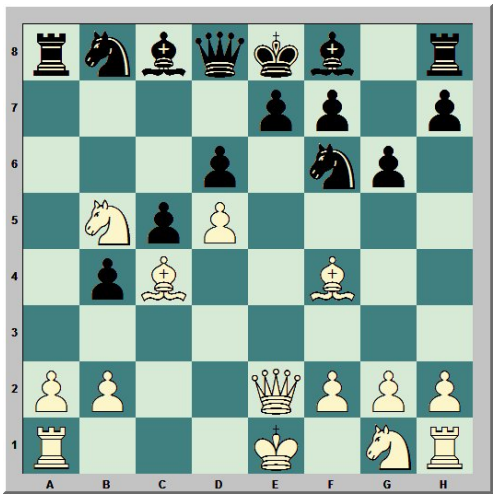
A Strange Tournament

~ Selden Trimble ~

In Charlie Ward's Wilhelm Steinitz Open last January 24th, a strange thing happened to me. In round 1, I won with White over Randy Giminez in 12 moves. In round 2, I lost with Black to Robert E. Lawson in 14 moves. In each case, the loss of the queen prompted the early resignation. Below are the two games, with diagrams right before the winning moves.

1.d4 Nf6
2.c4 c5
3.d5 b5
4.cxb5 a6
5.Nc3 axb5
6.e4 b4
7.Nb5 d6
8.Bc4 Nxe4? Too risky.
9.Qe2 Nf6 If *9. ... f5, then 10. f3 Nf6 11. Bf4.*
10.Bf4 g6? [Diagram Right] It's hard to suggest anything much better. For example, *10. ... e5 11. dxe6 Bxe6 12. Bxe6 fxe6 13. Qxe6+ Qe7 14. Nc7+* wins a rook.
11.Nxd6+ Kd7
12.Bb5+ When the Black king goes to c7, White will get the queen by Nxf7+. Black resigned. 1-0

Benko Gambit
Wilhelm Steinitz Open
W: Selden Trimble (1916)
B: Randy Giminez (2000)

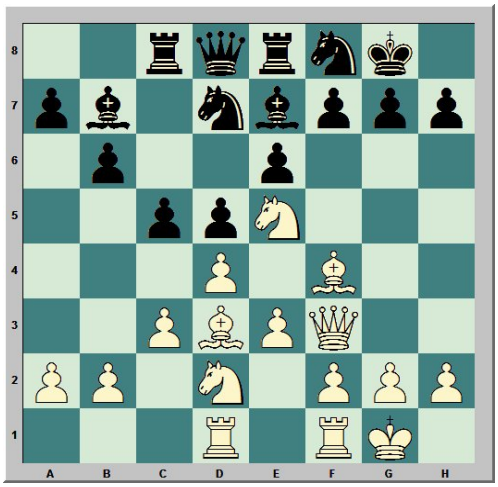


Black's King is stuck in the center, while white has pieces threatening. Tactics!!

Having just seen what can happen to your queen early in the game, you'd think I'd be a bit careful.
But no...

1.d4 d5
2.Nf3 Nf6
3.Bf4 e6
4.e3 Nbd7
5.Nbd2 c5
6.c3 Be7
7.Bd3 b6
8.Bb5 Bb7
9.Ne5 0-0
10.Bd3 Re8
11.Qf3 Rc8
12.0-0 Nf8
13.Rad1 Black really doesn't seem to know what he's doing. But White has built a nice position in which he can use all his pieces to attack Black's king. **13...N6d7??** Black decides to attack the e5-square with both knights to eliminate some pressure. [Diagram Right]
14.Nxf7 Oops! The queen goes. 14. ... Kxf7 15. Bc7+ Kg8 16. Bxd8 Rexd8. Black has no counterplay. White can continue his attack against the Black king. Black resigned. Somewhere in these two games is a moral. 1-0

French Defense
Wilhelm Steinitz Open
W: Robert Lawson (1971)
B: Selden Trimble (1916)



Position after 13...Nd7. The Black Queen has only one square it can move to,

2009 MISSOURI STATE INVITATIONAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP DETAILS

Tournament Format/Parameters:

5-round Standard Swiss, Game/120 minutes. Entry Fee: $40.00. Prizes b/20: $500-1st, $250-2nd, $125-3rd. In the event of a tie, cash prizes will be split, but the State Champion & plaque winner will be determined by 1.) Number of Wins 2.) Head-to-Head result 3.) Best of 5 Blitz Match. In the event that more than two people tie for first, Modified Median will determine the top two players to play the Blitz Match.
Check-in: 10-10:45am Saturday, Rounds: Saturday-11:00/3:30/8:00, Sunday-10:30/3:00. Players can confirm participation at their earliest convenience, however all players must have their entry fee sent in no later than September 19.

Players Currently Qualified to Play for the 2009 State Title

Player	Rating	Hometown	Qualifying Merits
Richard Benjamin	2200	Saint Louis	Saint Louis Classical Swiss 1 Winner / Rating
John R Boyer	1865	Arnold	Saint Louis Classical Swiss 1 Winner
IM Michael A Brooks	2423	Raytown	Mid-America Open / Previous State Co-Champion (2003) / Rating
James A Davies	2023	Saint Louis	Defending Missouri State Champion
George T Essig	2040	Fenton	Previous Missouri State Co-Champion (1999)
Zebedee Fortmann III	2040	Kansas City	Previous Missouri State Co-Champion (2005)
Isaiah Z. Gadson	1906	Saint Louis	Mid-America Open--Top Missouri Resident in U2000
Bart F Gibbons	2256	Kansas City	Rating
Thomas G Gossell	2213	Lee's Summit	Previous Missouri State Co-Champion (2003, 2005) / Rating
Kevin Guo	2001	Saint Louis	Previous Missouri State Co-Champion (2005)
Bob Holliman	**2202**	**Independence**	**2008 Missouri Open Co-Champion / Previous Champion / Rating**
Albert D Howlett	1860	Florissant	Saint Louis Classical Swiss 2 Winner
Margaret Hua	1552	Ballwin	Polgar Playoff Winner
Robert Merton Jacobs	2100	Lake Saint Louis	Previous Missouri State Co-Champion (2004)
Kenneth E Jones	2232	Independence	Previous Missouri State Co-Champion (2003) / Rating
Nicholas W Karlow	1984	Valley Park	2008 Missouri Open Co-Champion
Charles Lawton	2358	University City	Mid-America Open / Rating
Ronald G Luther	**2204**	**Blue Springs**	**Defending Missouri State Champion / Previous Champion / Rating**
James F McLaughlin	2132	Saint Louis	Previous Missouri State Co-Champion (2005)
Waldo Odak	2050	Saint Louis	Previous Missouri State Co-Champion (2003, 2004)
Daniel O Roberts	1943	Fenton	Saint Louis Swiss VI Winner
Brad Schlosser	**1870**	**Chesterfield**	**Denker Playoff Winner**
Robert S Taras	1895	Fenton	Saint Louis Swiss VIII Winner
James R Voelker	**2137**	**Saint Louis**	**Saint Louis Swiss IV / Previous Missouri State Co-Champion (2004)**

* This list only represents the players who currently qualify, this is not a pre-registration list.
* Players in **BOLD** have confirmed their participation in the tournament.
* To confirm your participation or if you believe you have been left off of this list in error please e-mail Thomas Rehmeier, 2009 Invitational Organizer <T.Rehmeier@yahoo.com>
* Please mail entry fee to Thomas Rehmeier, 5217 Denice Street, Jefferson City, Missouri 65109-6512.

2009 Greater Kansas City Open — May 30th, 2009

Missouri State Invitational Championship Qualifier

4SS,G/60. Location: Noland Road Baptist Church, 4505 S Noland Road, Independence MO 64055. Prizes: $80 for a 4-0 score, $40 for 3.5/4 $20 for 3/4 $10 for 2.5
Entry Fee: $20. Registration: 8:30-9:30am. Rounds: 10am, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45
No computers, no smoking. MCA membership required for MO residents from $5,
Cash only for on site entries and memberships! Advance entries: Bob Holliman,
PO Box 1871, Independence, MO 64055

Huge Turnout for Scholastic State

Over 500 players turned out this year at the State Scholastic Championships in Jefferson City. The tournament was once again well run by The Gateway Chess League's team of operators and directors. The event was held in the Capital Plaza Hotel, just across the street from the Capital Building. The new location seemed much more comfortable and roomy for parents and coaches, while still providing a nice playing area. The event is scheduled to return to that same location next year.

Congratulations to all the winners and those who participated.

Team Champions:

High School
Rockhurst High School

Ninth & Under
Westminster Christian Academy

Eight & Under
Sperreng Middle School

Sixth & Under
Central Christian Elementary

Fifth & Under
Pembroke Hill School

Third & Under
Pembroke Hill School

A view of half the room at state. Can you find yourself?

Individual Champions:

Board 1		Board 2		Board 3		Board 4	
T-1st	-Nick Karlow	T-1st	-Steven Rand	1st	-Alex Esposito	T-1st	-Matt Frankenberg
T-1st	-Andrew Latham	T-1st	-William Hodel	2nd	-Junye Hong	T-1st	-Chris Viamontes
3rd	-Will Bernard	3rd	-Chris Eberhardt	3rd	-Joseph Bridgman	T-1st	-Jon Mura
4th	-Jasper Grossman	4th	-Andrew Venable	4th	-Brandon Jones	4th	-Jon Schafer
5th	-Brad Schlosser	5th	-Michael Menzel	5th	-Daniel Nixon	5th	-Jon Stacks
6th	-Michael R Przetak	6th	-Andrew Schatz	6th	-Isadora Grossman	6th	-Nick Grado
7th	-Austin Gantner	7th	-Brian Phillips	7th	-Michael Vierling	7th	-James Koppel
8th	-Robin Woehr	8th	-John Gist	8th	-Vincent Koritz	8th	-Lucas Kapp
9th	-Nathaniel Johnson	9th	-Jesse Baer	9th	-Michael Cranwill	9th	-Benji Wolff
10th	-Stephano Jeong	10th	-Jack Haskins	10th	-Alex Slater	10th	-Harry Hawkins

Jim Small and Ed Baur have been helping with this event longer than any of the players have been alive! (Jim's shirt this year is proof!)

Players, and coaches, pours in to see pairings

High School Board one players face off in the last round. Nick Karlow (right) would hold on for dear life to win against Brad Schlosser to take 1st. On the second board, Andrew Latham (2nd left) defeated Doug Howe to also finish a perfect 4-0.

Alex Esposito (left) defeated Isadora Grossman in the last round on HS Board 3. Alex was one of FIVE! Rockhurst players to go 4-0 on the day. On the second board Junye Hong (left) defeated Brandon Jones to grab sole second.

Ninth & Under

1st	-Jay Shapiro
2nd	-Kyle Murphy
3rd	-Jeremy Heitzman
4th	-Jerett Maass
5th	-Brampton Bridgman
6th	-Evan Miller
7th	-Stephen Esswien
8th	-Shane Lindsey
9th	-Vishal Bharadwaj
10th	-Mitch Wise

Eight & Under

1st	-Isaiah Gadson
2nd	-Jailin Ding
3rd	-Nate Noss
4th	-James Smith
5th	-Alex Hall
6th	-Sathya Anand
7th	-Samuel Stephens
8th	-Luke Herbst
9th	-William Nesham
10th	-Mauricio Pimentel

Sixth & Under

1st	-Kevin Cao
2nd	-Aadithya Palaniappan
3rd	-Matthew Nelson
4th	-Jack Southwell
5th	-William Tong
6th	-Jacob Chimento
7th	-Tahj Gayfield
8th	-Asaan Moore
9th	-Saqib Hassan
10th	-Alexander Lynn

The last two 8th and under undefeated players squared off in last round. Isaiah Gadson (left) prevailed over James Smith to win the section. On the next board Jialin Ding (left) fought off Vikram Arun to grab second.

Asaan Moore,(right) by far the lowest rated player in his division to win a trophy, packs up after being defeated by Kevin Cao in the last round of the 6th and under section. Kevin's victory secured his fifth straight state title!!!! William Tong (left) and Tahj Moore drew on board 2.

Top seeds Margaret Hua (left) and Stephen Zhang met for all the marbles in the 5th and Under division. Margaret came away with the win, and a 6-0 score for her first state title. Keturah Gadson (2nd left) defeated Gabe Boyd to join a seven player group tied for 2nd.

Are they playing bughouse??? No, just the youngest competitors setting up their board up against each other! Justin Chen overcame Hylan Torin on the first board to take the 3rd and Under title, even while distracted by their very close neighbors Nicholas Pallotto and Jason Zhao. Nicholas won that game to finish 5-1.

Fifth & Under

1st	-Margaret Hua
2nd	-Stephen Zhang
3rd	-Joshua Wiedner
4th	-Zachary Millsap
5th	-Brian Kuo
6th	-Keturah Gadson
7th	-Steven Miyawaki
8th	-Daniel Stark
9th	-Jonah Smith
10th	-Chris Haberstroh

Third & Under

1st	-Justin Chen
2nd	-India Gaume
3rd	-David Braton
4th	-Nicholas Pallotto
5th	-Michael Innes
6th	-Jason Zhou
7th	-Jason Ding
8th	-Ross Copeland
9th	-Gabe Roulier
10th	-Torin Hylan

Five hundred twenty kids filled the large playing hall.

A view of the High School Section.

Mizzou Quads

Columbia Missouri: Charles Ward is well known for his “one dollar” events. Every few months he holds his standard, three round “for the satisfaction of playing well” tournaments. Once a year however, he breaks the mold and holds a prize event, the Mizzou Quads. The event this year was smaller in numbers, but not in competition, as strong players from St. Louis and Kansas City converged on the convenient location.

The competition was fierce in the top quad, with all four players rated above 2000. The decisive game was between Kansas City Master Ron Luther, and St. Louis’s legend Bob Jacobs. Both men defeated the other two strong players in the quad (there were no draws in the section!), and in their head to head match, Ron Luther emerged with the game and the victory in the quad.

Scandinavian Defense
Mizzou Quads
W: Bob Jacobs (2105)
B: Ron Luther (2204)

(Annotations by Ron Luther) **1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qa5 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.d4 Ne4!?** IM Martin wrote an interesting article calling this the "Scandinavian Surprise". Since Mr. Jacobs is fond of the 2 Bishops 6.Bd2 is out of the question. Time 1:13-1:13 **6.Bd3 Nxc3 7.bxc3 g6** According to one of the silicone monsters, you can take the c3 pawn, but you'd better remember it all over the board! **8.Bd2 Bg7 9.0-0 0-0 10.Re1 Nc6** Black has what he wanted from the opening, a different position for his opponent to figure out. Time 1:08-1:10 **11.c4?!** [11.Qe2; 11.Be4; 11.h3] **11...Qa3 12.d5 Nb4 13.Bc1 Qa6** [13...Qa4] **14.Rb1 Nxd3** Now Black has the 2 Bishops and better pawn structure. White has to hope his lead in development and open lines will help. **15.cxd3 e6** Time :58-1:00 **16.dxe6 Bxe6 17.Qb3 b6 18.Bb2 Bxb2 19.Rxb2 Rad8 20.Ng5? Qa5** After this move Mr. Jacobs said out loud "That was dumb", referring to his Ng5. Time :52-:53 **21.Nf3 Bg4** Now Black has the initiative. **22.Rbe2 Bxf3 23.gxf3 Qg5+ 24.Kh1 Qf5 25.d4** White doesn’t want to be tied down defending the d4 pawn. **25...Rxd4** Time :48-:49 **26.Re8 Rd3 27.Qb2 Qxf3+ 28.Kg1 Qg4+ 29.Kf1 Qd4 30.Rxf8+ Kxf8** Time :38-:46 **31.Qe2 Rd2 32.Qe7+ Kg7 33.Re4 Qxf2# 0-1**

The second quad was just the kind of match one hopes to get in a quad, with four well matched players. Again there were no draws in the quad, and all four players scored at least one victory. Top rated Thomas Rehmeier seemed to be cruising to victory with a 2-0 score after two rounds, but Milt Garber knocked off the favorite to tie for top honors.

Scandinavian Defense
Mizzou Quads
W: Milton Garber (1509)
B: Thomas R. Rehmeier (1817)

(Annotations by Thomas Rehmeier)**1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qa5 4.d4 c6 5.Bd2 Qc7 6.Bc4 Nf6 7.Nf3 Bf5 8.Qe2 Bxc2 9.Rc1 Bg6** Better was 9...Bf5 so that I continue to cover the c8-h3 diagonal defending the king. **10.d5** generating pressure on my queen and opening up lines against my uncastled king. **10...a6 11.0–0 b5??** such a natural looking tempo-gaining puts me in a terrible pinch due to the great activity of Milt's pieces. [Better was 11...c5 12.Rfd1 Nbd7 13.Be3 Qd6 I think Milt now has compensation for his pawn since the king still isn't happy and the dark-squared bishop is sitting it out.] **12.Nxb5! axb5 13.Bxb5 Nxd5 14.Nd4 Qd6 15.Nxc6 Nd7 16.Ne5 Bf5 17.Rc6 Qb8 18.Rfc1 N5b6** holding the c8 square to keep from dropping the queen. **19.Bf4** After this move, any hope I had of trying to defend is gone. Isn't it awful to be up a piece and still have a miserably lost position? **19...Nd5 20.Nxd7 Nxf4 21.Nf6+** the final blow **21...Kd8 22.Qd2+ Bd3 23.Bxd3 exf6 24.Bf5+ Bd6 25.Rxd6+ Ke8 26.Qxf4 Qxb2 27.Qe4+ Kf8 28.Qxa8+ Ke7 29.Rd7#** Congratulations to Mr. Garber for a very well played game, and taking a share of 1st place! **1–0**

In the third quad (swiss), five players battled it out, with only a single draw in this division as well. At the end of the day, Charles Ward and Tim Campbell tied with 2.5/3 to take top honors. The two players drew their contest in the 2nd round, and each won both contests in rounds one and three.

See page 26 for more games from the Mizzou Quads

Denker & Polgar Playoff

~Bob Holliman~
Life Master

March 28th was a cold and dreary day outside the Capital Plaza Hotel in Jefferson City, MO. Inside, Brad Schlosser won the Denker qualifier with a last round win over State Scholastic Champion Nick Karlow. Schlosser will now head to Indianapolis, Indiana to compete with representatives from the other 49 states this August for a shot at an all expenses paid 4 year scholarship to the University of Texas at Dallas. Brad is a Junior at Parkway Central High School in St Louis where he studies investing and business when not tied up with some mundane thing such as a required class.

Outside of school he is a member of the Future Business Leaders of America ("FBLA") and a part-time model/body builder..or at least his one professed trip to the gym at the just completed "Supernationals" would lead you to believe he is into body-building. Seriously folks, getting some bio from Brad was more difficult that a trip to the dentist. He did finally admit to liking Bronstein's Zurich '53 as his favorite chess book and he also enjoys game collections with the games of Alexander Alekhine being at the top of the list. Brad has been playing in USCF events since 5th grade and has enjoyed several successful results. He credits his dad for teaching him how to play. Brad currently holds a USCF rating of 1887 and is on track to cross the 2000 mark with a few more successful events.

A49: Anti Kings Indian System
Denker Qualifier
W: Brad Schlosser (1870)
B: Nick Karlow (1986)

1.d4 Nf6 2.g3 g6 3.Bg2 Bg7 4.e4 0-0 5.Nd2 We are now out of theory. By not playing c4 and Nc3 White has avoided main line theory. *[5.Ne2 d5 6.e5 Ne8 7.Nf4 c6 8.h4 Nc7 9.h5 Ne6 10.hxg6 fxg6 11.Ne2 Na6 12.Nbc3 Nac7 13.Be3 Rf7 14.Qd2 a5 15.f4 b6 16.g4 Nf8 17.Bh3 e6 18.0-0-0 Rb8 19.Rdf1 c5 20.f5 exf5 21.gxf5 Bxf5 22.Bxf5 Rxf5 23.Rxf5 gxf5 24.Bh6 Nce6 25.Bxg7 Kxg7 26.dxc5 d4 27.Nb5 bxc5 28.Nd6 f4 29.Qd3 f3 30.Qxf3 Qg5+ 31.Kb1 Qxe5 32.Rg1+ Ng6 33.Qf7+ Kh8 34.Qxg6 1-0 Kurajica,B-Navrotescu,C/Biel 1990/EXT 2000; 5.Nc3 d6 6.Nge2 e5 7.h3 c6 8.0-0 b5 9.a3 a6 10.f4 exd4 11.Nxd4 Re8 12.Kh2 Bb7 13.Re1 Nbd7 14.e5 dxe5 15.Nxc6 Qc7 16.Nb4 Bxg2 17.Kxg2 Qb7+ 18.Kh2 Rad8 19.Nbd5 exf4 20.Rxe8+ Rxe8 21.Nxf6+ Bxf6 22.Bxf4 Nb6 23.Qf1 Bxc3 24.bxc3 Qe4 25.Qf2 Nd5 26.Bh6 Qe2 27.Rf1 Nxc3 28.Kg1 Qxf2+ 29.Kxf2 f5 30.Kf3 Kf7 31.Bd2 Ne4 32.Bf4 Rc8 33.Rd1 Ke6 34.a4 Rc3+ 35.Be3 bxa4 36.g4 Rxc2 37.Rd4 Ra2 38.Rb4 Nc3 39.Rb6+ Kd5 40.Rxa6 Ra3 41.Bh6 fxg4+ 42.hxg4 Rb3 43.Kf4 Rb4+ 44.Kf3 Kc4 45.Ra7 Nb5 46.Rxh7 a3 47.Bg7 Kb3 48.Rh6 a2 49.Ba1 Nd4+ 50.Kg3 Nc2 51.Bh8 Nd4 52.Rh1 Ne2+ 53.Kh4 Nc3 54.Kg5 Rb6 55.Kh6 Rc6 56.g5 Nb1 57.Ba1 Nd2 58.Bf6 Nb1 59.Ba1 Kc2 60.Rf1 Nd2 61.Rf6 Rc5 1/2-1/2 Espig,L-Watson,W/Thessaloniki 1988/TD]*
5...d6 6.Ngf3 Nbd7 7.0-0 c6 *[7...e5 8.c3 Re8 9.Re1 exd4 10.cxd4 c5 11.b3 b5 12.Bb2 Bb7 13.e5 dxe5 14.dxe5 Ng4 15.Rc1 Rb8³]* **8.b3 e5 9.dxe5 Ng4** Thematic, but the position is not a standard one for this kind of idea and this leads to the exchange of Blacks dark-squared bishop which in turn weakens his King position. [*9...Nxe5 10.Nxe5 dxe5 11.Nc4 Be6 12.Ba3 Re8 13.Nd6 Re7 14.Qd2 Rd7 15.Rad1 Ne8 16.f4 Nxd6 17.Bxd6 Qb6+ 18.Qf2 Qxf2+ 19.Rxf2 Rad8 20.f5 Bxb3 21.axb3 Rxd6 22.Rxd6 Rxd6 Black is a pawn up but the opposite color Bishops give good drawing chances*] **10.Bb2 Ngxe5 11.Nxe5 Nxe5 12.f4 Qb6+?!** *[12...Nf3+ 13.Nxf3 Bxb2 14.Rb1 Bg7 15.Re1 Re8 16.Qd2 Qb6+ 17.Kh1 Bg4 18.Qxd6 Rad8 19.Qa3 Qf2 20.Rf1 Qxc2 21.Rbc1 Qxe4³ White will regain his pawn but Black will have the Bishop pair]* **13.Kh1 Ng4 14.Bxg7 Kxg7** Now that Black is without his dark square piece, the defense of his king position will be difficult **15.Qe2 Ne3 16.Nc4** A very nice consolidating move by Brad - the Black knight must leave the position and now Black has a backward pawn on d6 to defend *[16.Rf2 Bg4 17.Bf3 f5 18.Bxg4 Nxg4*

A happy Brad Schlosser will represent Missouri this year at the Denker tournament of Champions in Indiana this fall. Good luck Brad!!

19.Rff1 Qc5 and both kings are exposed.] **16...Nxc4 17.Qxc4 Be6** [*17...Rd8 18.f5 d5 19.f6+ Kh8 20.exd5 cxd5 21.Bxd5 Bf5 22.Bxf7 (22.g4 Rac8; 22.Rae1 Rac8 23.Qe2 Bh3 24.Rf4 g5 25.Re4 Qxf6 26.c4±) 22...Rac8 23.Qf4 Rxc2-+]* **18.Qc3+ f6** *[18...Kg8 19.f5,]* **19.Rad1 Rad8 20.Rd2 Qc7** I watched the intensity with which the players worked the board during this game as they knew what was at stake. Sometimes in these kinds of positions a counter-attack is overlooked in favor of direct defense but as the variation shows Black is OK. *[20...d5 21.exd5 Rxd5 22.Re2 Bf7 23.Re7 Rdd8 24.Rfe1 Rfe8=]* **21.Rfd1 Rd7 22.Qe3 b6 23.f5 Bf7** *[23...Bg8 24.Qf4 Rfd8 25.fxg6 hxg6 26.Bh3 g5 27.Qf3 Re7²]* **24.fxg6 hxg6 25.Qf4 g5 26.Qg4 Re7** A complex trap which White is able to work his way thru. **27.Rxd6 Bd5 28.e5 Kg6 29.Rxf6+** possibly overlooked by black when he played move 27. Now the black king is open**... 29...Rxf6 30.exf6 Bxg2+ 31.Kxg2 Re8** *[31...Kxf6 32.Rf1+ Kg6 33.Rf5 Re2+ 34.Kf1 Qe7 35.Qxg5++-]* **32.Rd7 Qe5 33.f7 Rh8** Fighting to the end **34.h4 a5 35.h5+ Kh6 36.Qf3 Rf8 37.Qxc6+ Kxh5 38.g4+ Kh4 39.Qh6+ Kxg4** A very nice game by Brad. **40.Qh3+ 1-0**

On the girls side of the tournament, the young ladies, from elementary to high school aged, competed to earn the coveted spot to the Susan Polgar National Invitational for Girls. The tournament will be held in Lubbock Texas from July 26-July 31, 2009. The event features one qualifier from each state (and a few other wildcard entries), promising strong competition and a fun event for the participants. The tournaments top two players, last year's defending champion Joanna Gossell, and top rated Margaret Hua both survived upset minded players in the early rounds and met each other in a head to head pairing. The game didn't disappoint! A King's Gambit accepted led to a wild tactic melee with both players fighting through complications trying to attack and defend the kings.

King's Gambit Accepted
Polgar Qualifying Tournament
W: Joanna Gossell (1490)
B: Margaret Hua (1552)

1.e4 e5 2.f4 exf4 3.Nf3 g5 4.h4 g4 5.Ne5 Qe7 6.Nxg4 Qxe4+ 7.Qe2 d5 8.d3 Qxe2+ 9.Bxe2 f5 10.Ne5 Nf6 11.Bxf4 Bd6 12.d4 c6 13.Rf1 Rg8 14.g3 Nbd7 15.c4 Nxe5 16.dxe5 Bb4+ 17.Nd2 Ne4 18.Bh5+ Ke7 19.Rf3 Bxd2+ 20.Bxd2 Rxg3 21.Bg5+ Ke6 22.cxd5+ cxd5 23.Bf4 Rxf3 24.Bxf3 Bd7 25.Rc1 Rg8 26.Ke2 Bb5+ 27.Ke3 d4+ 28.Kxd4 Rd8+ 29.Ke3 Rd3+ 30.Ke2 Rc3+ 31.Kd1 Rxf3 0-1

This win put Margaret in the driver's seat, with only a win or draw in the last round needed to win the tournament. She had a significant rating edge over her opponent, Jennifer Flynn, but Jennifer had played Margaret tough in last year's Polgar qualifier, and had been the only person to take a half point away from Joanna Gossell in that event, so the result was by no means given.

Two Knights Defense
Polgar Qualifying Tournament
W: Margaret Hua (1552)
B: Jennifer Flynn (911)

1.e4 e5 2.Bc4 Nf6 3.d3 Nc6 4.Nf3 d6 5.Ng5 Be6 6.Bxe6 fxe6 7.Nxe6 Qd7 8.Nxf8 Rxf8 9.Nc3 0-0-0 10.Nd5 Nxd5 11.exd5 Nd4 12.Be3 Rde8 13.h3 Qa4 14.0-0 Nf5 15.b3 Qd7 16.a4 e4 17.b4 Kb8 18.c4 Qf7 19.a5 Qg6 20.d4 Nxe3 21.fxe3 Qg5 22.Qe2 h5 23.Rxf8 Rxf8 24.Rf1 Qe7 25.Rxf8+ Qxf8 26.Qxh5 c6 27.dxc6 bxc6 28.d5 Qc8 29.dxc6 Qxc6 30.Qh8+ Kb7 31.Qxg7+ Kb8 32.Qg8+ Kb7 33.Qd5 Qxd5 34.cxd5 Kc7 35.b5 Kb7 36.h4 1-0

A nice finish by the youngest player in the field. Margaret showed her ability to handle a wild tactical mess in one game, and then how to convert a small pawn advantage in the other, on her way to victory.

This will be Margaret's second time in the Susan Polgar Girls Championship. Something tells me the 10-year old isn't finished after this trip!

Congratulations to both Brad and Margaret on their success, Missouri will be watching and rooting for you at the big events!

Featured Games With

Reigning State Champion Ron Luther annotates two of his favorite games from the 2008 Invitational Championship. The first game is his win over Co-Champion James Davies. Each of these players would win four out of five games in the hard fought tournament. Ron won this game and then prevailed in the blitz tie breaks to take home the plaque. The second game is played against the "low man" in the field, at least rating wise, Darius Masuhud. Darius entered the event coming off several dominating tournament wins, and the consensus was he was more dangerous than his rating portrayed.

French Defense
2008 MO Invitational
W: James Davies (2000)
B: Ron Luther (2211)

1.e4 d5 2.Nc3 e6 Since Jim Doesn't play the Nc3 lines vs the French, this was a transposition he would not be familiar with. There was a look of dismay and a pause here as he decided what to do next. I have also played 2...d4 here, and those who like Caro-Kann positions could take on e4 and be a move up in certain lines. **3.d4 Bb4** There is currently a lot of interest in the classical lines with 3...Nf6. **4.e5 c5 5.a3 Bxc3+** *Time 1:51-1:46* **6.bxc3 Qc7** One of the more flexible lines of the Winawer. Ne7 and Qa5 are also common. **7.Nf3** Here Qg4 is also a main line. **7...b6** Because of the pawn structure, an exchange of the white squared bishops is desirable to black. **8.Bd3** [8.a4; 8.h4] **8...Ba6 9.0-0?!** *(diagram left)* Since White is not familiar with this variation he makes a mistake and castles. As will be seen later, the King needs to be in the center, and the pawn attack on the king-side needs the rook on h3**.** *9.a4* is more logical to free the dark-squares for the bishop. **9...Bxd3 10.Qxd3 Ne7** Time 1:44-1:40 **11.Be3?!** [11.a4] **11...h6 12.Rab1 0-0 13.Rb5** Had White not castled the pawn storm on the K-side would give white the play he needed. **13...cxd4!** Since white is not threatening to do anything black opens the c-file. **14.cxd4 Rc8 15.Rc1 Qc4** Time 1:28-1:24 **16.Ne1 Nf5 17.g4 Nxe3 18.fxe3 Qxd3 19.Nxd3 Nc6 20.Kf2 Na5** *Time 1:17-1:06* **21.c3 Rc7 22.Nf4** White scrambles to defend. **22...Rac8 23.Ne2 Nc4 24.a4 Kf8** Black is in no hurry and slowly improves his position. **25.h4 Ke7** *Time :53-1:00* **26.Kf3 Rf8 27.e4 f6** While black could win a pawn with Nd2+ he wants more! **28.exd5 fxe5+ 29.Kg3?** [29.Ke4 Nd6+ 30.Kxe5 Nxb5 31.axb5 exd5µ; 29.Kg2 Nd6 30.Rb4 exd5 31.dxe5 Ne4-+] **29...Nd6 30.Rbb1 Ne4+** This was the only game Jim lost. He fought very hard to win the next four. **0-1**

Position after 9. 0-0

Sicilian Dragon
2008 MO Invitational
W: Ron Luther (2211)
B: Darius Masuhud (1917)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 g6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Bg7 Time 1:54-1:53 **6.Be3 d6** [6...Nf6] **7.Qd2 a6?!** Hard to play moves like this in a variation as sharp as the Dragon. **8.Be2?!** [8.Nd5!] **8...Bd7 9.0-0-0 Rc8 10.h4! h5** *Time 1:42-1:45* **11.f3 Nf6 12.Kb1 Ne5 13.Nd5 Nxd5** [13...Nc4] **14.exd5 b5?!** [14...Nc4] **15.Rde1** A deep move, the purpose of which become obvious later. **15...Nc4** *Time 1:25-1:36* **16.Bxc4 Rxc4 17.b3 Rc8** [17...Rc5 18.Ne6!] **18.Bg5!±** Black now has major problems. **18...0-0** *(Diagram Right)* **19.Rxe7** [19.Bxe7 Qb6 20.Bxf8 Kxf8 Here I was worried about the weakness of the dark squares. It is common for black to give up the exchange in the Dragon for this.] **19...Qb6** [19...f6 20.Rxg7+! Kxg7 21.Bh6+ Kg8 22.Qd3 f5 23.Bxf8 Qxf8 24.g4!-+] **20.Be3 Qd8** *Time 1:17-1:10* **21.Bg5 Qb6 22.Rxd7!? Bxd4 23.Rxd6** White gives up the exchange for the dark squares this time! **23...Qxd6 24.Qxd4 f6 25.Bf4 Qd7** *Time :46-:50* **26.Qd3 Kf7 27.d6 Rfe8 28.g4!** It is important to keep attacking so as to keep black from organizing his forces. **28...Rc5 29.Rg1 hxg4 30.fxg4 Qe6 31.h5! Rg8 32.hxg6+ Rxg6 33.d7 Rd5 34.d8Q** *Time :27-:02* **1-0**

White can win the exchange in this position with Bxe7, but chose Rxe7 instead !?

Master Annotations

~ Life Masters
Bob Holliman &
Ron Luther ~

On February 28th Nick Karlow took first at Missouri's 2009 Scholastic Championship with a 4-0 score. A month later he dropped a game to Brad Schlosser (see elsewhere in this issue of the MCB) costing him the Denker Qualifier. The next weekend, April 3-5 was Supernationals, where over 5200 contestants vied for bragging rights and a National Title. In round 1 Nick dropped his game to a much lower rated player, thus setting the stage for a demonstration of how a champion faces adversity. In the next 6 rounds he scored 5.5/6 including this win over National Master Jeff Haskel and drawing Eric Rosen (2145) in which he was never in any danger. This fine play placed him in 20th place on tie-breaks. Of the 14 players with 5.5 only one was rated lower than Nick. So folks beware, Nick is hanging out with the masters and when you do that on a consistent basis you become one. I am looking forward to the day when he crosses 2200 and I can write the article! The game below shows how Nick's technique and positional understanding have grown. It is an excellent example of keeping a solid grasp on the position, a technique I call *defense and attack*.

Unusual French Defense
Supernationals IV: HS Champ
W: Jeffery Haskel (2240)
B: Nick Karlow (1986)

[Annotated by Bob Holliman] **1.d4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.Bg5 Nbd7 4.Nf3 e6 5.e4 dxe4 6.Nxe4 Be7 7.Nxf6+ Nxf6 8.Bd3 b6** There are 6-7 options here but b6 is 3rd in my database but it is a very principled move that delays castling till White declares where his king will live and takes up the light diagonal. **9.0-0** [*9.Bb5+ Bd7 10.Qe2 0-0 11.Bd3 Bc6 12.0-0-0 Qd6=]* **9...0-0 10.Qe2 Bb7 11.Rad1 h6 12.Bc1** This "undeveloping" move is quite proper. Moves like this sometimes don't make a lot of sense to the majority of players but it is perfectly natural. The Bishop could be re-deployed to b2 if White was planning a Queenside pawn storm. **12...Qd5 (***Diagram Right)* This is the last move in known theory - hundreds of games have made they way thru this move order and now the options are either 13. c4 or Qe5. White comes up with an idea of distracting the Black Queen at the cost of a pawn. There is an old adage that a pawn is worth 3 moves so watch these and lets see if White gets his money's worth. **13.Bf4** *[13.c4 Qh5 14.Ne5 Qxe2 15.Bxe2 Bd6 (15...Rfd8 16.Be3 Nd7 17.Bf3 Bxf3 18.Nxf3 Bf6 19.b3 e5 20.d5 Be7 21.Ne1 a5 22.Nc2 Bd6 23.f4 Re8 24.f5 Nf6 25.h3 Ne4 26.a3 Ng3 27.Rf2 Kh7 28.Re1 g6 29.fxg6+ Kxg6 30.Rf3 e4 31.Rf2 f5 32.b4 axb4 33.axb4 Ra2 34.c5 bxc5 35.bxc5 Be5 36.Nd4 Rxf2 37.Bxf2 Bxd4 38.Bxd4 f4 39.Bf2 Nf5 40.Ra1 e3 41.Be1 Rd8 42.Rd1 Kf7 43.Kf1 Ne7 44.d6 cxd6 45.cxd6 Nf5 46.Ke2 Ke6 47.Kf3 Nxd6 48.Kxf4 Rd7 49.Kxe3 Nf5+ 50.Ke2 Rxd1 51.Kxd1 h5 ½-½ Kostro,J-Alzate,J/Havana 1966/EXT 99) 16.Bf3 Bxf3 17.Nxf3 Rfd8 18.b3 ½-½ Unzicker,W-Hausner,I/Germany 1991/GER-chT]* **13...Qxa2 14.b3** [14.Bxc7 Qxb2 15.Rb1 Bxf3 16.Qe3 Nd5 (16...Qc3 17.Bh7++-) 17.Rxb2 Nxe3 18.fxe3 Bb7 19.c4 Rac8?! *(19...Rfc8 20.Bg3 Ba6 21.Rc2* f5µ) *20.Be5 Ba6 21.Ra1 Bxc4 22.Bxc4 Rxc4 23.Rxa7 Rb4 24.Rxb4 Bxb4 25.Rb7 Ba5 26.Bc7=]* **14...Qa5** Ok black's first move after taking the gambit pawn is a queen move. The c7 pawn is still hanging**... 15.Be5** Trying to cut off the Black queen from the game. the other option is to grab the c7 pawn *[15.Bxc7 Qh5 16.Be5 Bxf3 17.Qxf3 Qxf3 18.gxf3 Nd7 19.Bg3 In this position White is down a pawn and has 3 islands compared to two for black but the bishops give him compensation and restrict the black knight.]* **15...Qd5 16.Rfe1 Qd8** Black's last 5 moves have been with his queen. White's moves have not made a marked difference in the position **17.c4** *[17.d5 fails to... 17...Bxd5 18.c4 Bxf3 19.Qxf3 Bd6 20.Bb2 Qe7 21.Ra1 a5 22.Bc2 Rad8 23.Red1 Rd7 24.Rd3 Rfd8 25.Rad1 Nh7 26.Qe4 Nf8 27.Qg4 Ng6* and Black is slowly blocking the White mate threats and preparing to unload the heavy pieces after which the ending will be fairly simple.] **17...Bd6 18.c5 Bxe5 19.dxe5 Nd5 20.Qe4 g6 21.Qg4 Kh7 22.h4 Qe7 23.h5 Rg8 24.b4 Nc3 25.Rc1 Bxf3 26.Qxf3 Nd5 27.Rc4 Rg7** Perhaps this is the hardest concept to get down. Mark Dvoretsky who writes quite challenging books mis-titled one of his "Attack and Defense" what the esteemed IM should have titled it was "DEFENSE and then Attack." Here Nick plays this position masterfully and you are about to see the depth of his understanding come to fruition**.... 28.Qh3 Qg5!!** I don't award !! very often but here it is correct.

Position after 12...Qd5

The defensive set-up of the Black pieces has been excellent. Notice how each move black has made is not geared toward direct attack. Instead he has carefully been coordinating his pieces toward defending his position. Now this move comes forward and while it does defend it has one set of teeth which are about to bite. **29.Rg4** [*29.Rce4 White should have defended and while its not much better he can continue to play 29...Nf4 30.hxg6+ fxg6 31.Qf3 Rf7 32.Bf1 Raf8 33.cxb6 axb6 34.Qe3 Qe7 35.Qd2 Nd5 36.f3]* **29...Qd2** Holds the h6 square, hits the e1 rook and allows the knight to come closer to the action. Notice that the Queen's rook has yet to be developed and we are on move 29. **30.Ree4 Ne7 31.Rh4 Nf5** Again defending the position FIRST **32.hxg6+ fxg6 33.Rhg4 Rd8** Development with tempo and a winning attack **34.Bc4 Qc1+ 35.Bf1 Rd1 36.g3 Rgd7 37.Rc4 Qa1 38.cxb6 cxb6 39.Rge4 Rxf1+ 40.Qxf1 Rd1 41.Rc7+ Ng7 42.Qxd1 Qxd1+ 43.Kh2 Qd5 44.f3** The game is clearly lost but White apparently wishes to see the end**.... 44...Qa2+ 45.Kg1 h5 46.Rc8 Nf5 47.Rec4 Ne3 48.R4c7+ Kh6 49.Rh8+ Kg5 50.Rxh5+ gxh5 51.f4+ Kg4 52.Rg7+ Kf3 0-1**

...Qg5!! Defending the position while setting up several threats.

Sicilian Defense
Mizzou Quads
W: Bob Holliman (2202)
B: Ron Luther (2204)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 a6 3.c3 d6 4.d4 cxd4 5.cxd4 g6 Time 1:14-1:13 **6.Nc3 Bg7 7.Bc4 Nf6 8.0-0 0-0 9.Qe2 Nc6 10.Bb3 b5** Time 1:06-1:00 **11.e5 Ng4 12.Bd5** [12.Qe4] **12...Qb6 13.e6!? [13.h3] 13...f5 14.h3 Nf6** Now the question becomes is the pawn at e6 a strength or weakness? **15.Rd1 Bb7 16.Bf4 b4! 17.Na4 Qa5 18.Bb3 Qd8 19.Ng5 Nh5 20.Bh2 f4!? [20...Nxd4] 21.Nf7 Qb8 22.Nb6 Nxd4 23.Rxd4 Bxd4 24.Nd7 Qc7 25.Nxf8 Rxf8 26.Kh1 Qc6-+ 27.f3 Rc8 28.Qd3 Be3 29.Bg1 Ng3+ 30.Kh2 Bxg1+** Time :16-:26 **31.Rxg1 Qc5 32.Re1 Qf2 33.Rd1 Nf5 34.Rf1 Qg3+ 35.Kg1 h5** Time :06-:17 **36.Kh1 Ne3 37.Rg1 Rc1 38.Qd2 Nf1** And here Black lost on time. [38...Bxf3] **0-1**

Sicilian Dragon
Mizzou Quads
W: Ron Luther (2204)
B: Kevin Johnson (2010)

Since all I needed was a draw, I chose a dry line against the Dragon. **1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Nc3 g6 4.d4 cxd4 5.Nxd4 Bg7** Time 1:12-1:12 **6.Be3 Nf6 7.Be2 0-0 8.Qd2 d5 9.Nxc6 bxc6 10.exd5 Nxd5 11.Nxd5 Qxd5 12.Qxd5 cxd5 13.0-0-0 Be6!? 14.Kb1 Rfc8 15.g4 Rab8 16.b3 f5?!** [16...a5] **17.h3 a5 18.Bf3 fxg4 19.hxg4 Rd8 20.Bf4 Rbc8 21.Rhe1 Rf8?** [21...Kf7²] **22.Rxe6 Rxf4 23.Bxd5 Kf8 24.f3+- a4 25.Rh1 axb3** Time :50-:40 **26.axb3 Rc5 27.c4 h5 28.Rxg6 hxg4 29.Rh8+ Bxh8 30.Rg8# 1-0**

Recent Games from Missouri Players

English Opening
Mid-America Open
W: GM Alejandro Ramirez (2619)
B: IM Michael Brooks (2423)

1.c4 e5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.Nf3 g6 4.g3 Bg7 5.Bg2 d6 6.d3 Nge7 7.0-0 0-0 8.Bd2 h6 9.Rb1 Be6 10.Qc1 Kh7 11.b4 Qd7 12.b5 Nd8 13.Ne1 Bh3 14.Nd5 Bxg2 15.Nxg2 Nxd5 16.cxd5 a6 17.a4 axb5 18.axb5 Ra2 19.Rd1 c6 20.Qc4 Ra8 21.bxc6 bxc6 22.Rb6 cxd5 23.Qxd5 Ne6 24.Qxd6 Qxd6 25.Rxd6 Nd4 26.Kf1 Ra2 27.Ne3 Rfa8 28.Rb6 R8a7 29.Nc4 h5 30.Rbb1 Rc2 31.Be3 Raa2 32.Rd2 Nf5 33.Rxc2 Rxc2 34.Rb2 Nxe3+ 35.fxe3 Rc1+ 36.Kf2 e4 37.Ra2 f5 38.Nd2 Bc3 39.dxe4 Bxd2 40.Rxd2 fxe4 41.Rd4 Rh1 42.h4 Rh2+ 43.Kf1 Kg7 44.Rxe4 Kf6 45.Ra4 Kf5 46.Ra6 g5 47.Ra5+ Ke4 48.hxg5 h4 49.g6 1-0

Budapest Gambit
Mid-America Open
W: Chris Castellanos (1711)
B: Steve Korenblat (1624)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e5 3.dxe5 Ng4 4.Nf3 Bc5 5.e3 Nc6 6.Nc3 Ngxe5 7.Nxe5 Nxe5 8.Be2 0-0 9.a3 a5 10.Bd2 f5 11.0-0 Ra6 12.Rb1 Qh4 13.b4 Rh6 14.h3 Rff6 15.bxc5 Rfg6 16.f4 Rxg2+ 17.Kxg2 Qxh3+ 18.Kf2 Qh4+ 0-1

King's Indian Defense
Mid-America Open
W: GM Dmitry Gurevich (2568)
B: Matthew Marsh (2044)

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 4.e4 d6 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Be2 e5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.d5 Ne7 9.Ne1 Nd7 10.Be3 f5 11.f3 f4 12.Bf2 g5 13.Nb5 b6 14.b4 a6 15.Nc3 Rf6 16.c5 Rh6 17.cxd6 cxd6 18.Nd3 Nf6 19.Be1 Kh8 20.b5 a5 21.Rc1 Bd7 22.Nf2 Rg6 23.Ng4 Nfg8 24.h3 h5 25.Nh2 Nf6 26.Bf2 Be8 27.Na4 Nd7 28.Rc6 Nc8 29.Qd2 Nc5 30.Bxc5 dxc5 31.Rxg6 Bxg6 32.d6 Ra7 33.Rd1 Rd7 34.Qc2 Rxd6 35.Rxd6

Qxd6 36.Bc4 Bf6 37.Nf1 Kg7 38.Nd2 Bd8 39.Bd5 White resigns, due to ...Qxd5! winning the bishop **0-1**

Slav Defense
Mid-America Open
W: James McLaughlin (2132)
B: Doug Eckert (2285)

1.c4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 a6 5.cxd5 cxd5 6.Bf4 Nc6 7.a3 g6 8.e3 Bg7 9.Bd3 0-0 10.h3 Bf5 11.Bxf5 gxf5 12.Qd3 e6 13.Ne5 Nxe5 14.Bxe5 Ne4 15.Bxg7 Kxg7 16.0-0 Rc8 17.Rac1 Qd7 18.Nxe4 fxe4 19.Qe2 ½-½

1.e4 e5 2.f4 Bc5 3.Nf3 d6 4.Bc4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.d3

King's Gambit Declined
Mid-America Open
W: Howard Cohen (1823)
B: Renzo Herrera (1892)

Ng4 7.Qe2 Bf2+ 8.Kd1 Nd4 9.Nxd4 Bxd4 10.f5 Nf2+ 11.Ke1 Nxh1 12.Qg4 g6 13.Nd5 h5 14.Qf3 gxf5 15.exf5 c6 16.Ne3 d5 17.Bb3 Qh4+ 18.Ke2 Rg8 19.c3 Bxe3 20.Bxe3 Qxh2 21.Rg1 Ng3+ 22.Ke1 Nxf5 23.Bf2 Rg3 24.Bxg3 Qxg1+ 25.Ke2 Nd4+ 0-1

1.d4 c6 2.c4 d5 3.Bf4 Bf5 4.Nf3 Nd7 5.e3 Ngf6

Slav Defense
Mid-America Open
W: Alvin Smith (UNR)
B: Sloane Hertel (781)

6.Nc3 h6 7.h3 e6 8.Bd3 Ne4 9.Rc1 Be7 10.Ne5 0-0 11.0-0 Nxe5 12.Bxe5 Nxc3 13.Rxc3 Bxd3 14.Qxd3 Bd6 15.Bxd6 Qxd6 16.c5 Qc7 17.b4 Rab8 18.b5 Rfe8 19.f4 Ra8 20.Rb1 Rab8 21.a4 Qa5 22.Ra3 Rec8 23.b6 axb6 24.Rxb6 Qe1+ 25.Kh2 Qh4 26.a5 Qe7 27.a6 Rc7 28.Qb3 Qd7 29.Qb1 Rcc8 30.a7 Ra8 31.Rxb7 Qd8 32.Rab3 Qa5 33.Rb8 Qxa7 34.Rxc8+ Rxc8 35.Rb7 Qa8 36.g4 Qa6 37.Qb2 Qd3 38.Qf2 Ra8 39.Qg3 Ra3 40.Qf3 Qxe3 41.Qxe3 Rxe3 42.Kg2 Rd3 43. Rb4 g5 44.f5 Rd2+ 45.Kg3 Kg7 46.fxe6 fxe6 47. Rb6 Rxd4 48.Rxc6 Rc4 49.Rxe6 Rxc5 50.Re5 Rc3+ 51.Kg2 Rd3 52.Rf5 d4 53.Rd5 Rd2+ 54.Kg3 Rd1 55.Kf2 Rd3 56.Kg2 Rd2+ 57.Kf3 Kf6 58. Rd6+ Kg7 59.Rd7+ Kg6 60.Rd6+ Kg7 Draw

1.e4 c5 2.Nc3 Nc6 3.g3 Nf6 4.Bg2 e6 5.d3 d5 6.Bd2

Closed Sicilian
Mid-America Open
W: William Thompson (1677)
B: Marcus Scott (1750)

Be7 7.f4 dxe4 8.Nxe4 Bd7 9.a4 Qc7 10.Bc3 e5 11.Bd2 Nxe4 12.dxe4 Bd6 13.Nh3 0-0 14.f5 f6 15.Nf2 Be8 16.g4 Be7 17.Ra3 Rd8 18.Qc1 Qd7 19.Rd3 Nd4 20.c3 c4 21.Rxd4 exd4 22.0-0 d3 23.Nd1 Qxa4 24.Kh1 Qc2 25.Ne3 Qxc1 26.Rxc1 Bf7 27.Nd5 Bc5 28.h4 Bxd5 29.exd5 Rfe8 30.Bf3 Be3 31.Rd1 Bxd2 32.Rxd2 Kf8 33.g5 Re5 34.g6 hxg6 35.fxg6 Rexd5 36.Kg2 R8d7 37.h5 b5 38.Kg3 a5 39.Kf4 Ke7 40.h6 gxh6 41.Rh2 Kf8 42.Rxh6 d2 43.Rh8+ Ke7 44.g7 Rg5 45.Rh7 Ke6 46.Rh6 0-1

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bg5 dxe4 5.Nxe4 Be7

French Defense
Mid-America Open
W: IM Michael Brooks (2423)
B: James McLaughlin (2132)

6.Bxf6 Bxf6 7.Nf3 0-0 8.Qe2 Nd7 9.0-0-0 b6 10.Ne5 Bb7 11.Nxd7 Qxd7 12.Nxf6+ gxf6 13.d5 Qa4 14.dxe6 Qxa2 15.e7 Rfe8 16.Rd4 Qa1+ 17.Kd2 Qxb2 18.Qg4+ Kh8 19.Qh4 Be4 20.Qxe4 Rxe7 21.Qxa8+ 1-0

1.c4 e5 2.d3 Bc5 3.Nf3 d6 4.e4 Nc6 5.Be2 Nf6 6.0-

English Opening
Mid-America Open
W: Eunice Rodgers (UNR)
B: Stanley Veyhl (721)

0 0-0 7.Nc3 Be6 8.Na4 Bd4 9.Nxd4 Nxd4 10.Nc3 Qd7 11.Be3 Nxe2+ 12.Nxe2 c6 13.d4 exd4 14.Bxd4 Nxe4 15.Nf4 Nf6 16.Nxe6 Qxe6 17.Re1 Qxc4 18.b3 Qd5 19.Bc3 Qg5 20.Bb4 c5 21.Ba3 Rad8 22.Rc1 b6 23.b4 Qf4 24.Rc2 d5 25.Bc1 Qd6 26.Rd2 d4 27.Bb2 Rde8 28.Ree2 Rxe2 29.Rxe2 h6 30.Rd2 h5 31.bxc5 bxc5 32.a3 Ng4 33.Bxd4 Qxh2+ 34.Kf1 cxd4 35.Rxd4 Qh1+ 36.Ke2 Qxg2 37.Rd8 Qe4+ 38.Kf1 Rxd8 39.Qxd8+ Kh7 40.Qd1 g6 41.f3 Qc4+ 42.Qe2 Nh2+ 43.Kf2 Qh4+ 44.Ke3 Qg5+ 45.Kf2 Qh4+ 46.Ke3 Qe7+ 47.Kf2 Qh4+ 48.Ke3 White misses her chance to claim a three-fold repetition draw 48...f5 49.f4 Ng4+ 50.Kd3 Qh3+ 51.Kd2 Qxa3 52.Qe7+ Kh6 53.Qf8+ Qxf8 54.Ke2 Qe8+ 55.Kf3 Qc6+ 56.Kg3 Qc3+ 57.Kg2 Qc2+ 58.Kg1 Qf2+ 59.Kh1 Qh2# 0-1

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6

Slav Defense
Mid-America Open
W: Stephen Zhang (1386)
B: Jacob Amann (1252)

3.Nc3 e6 4.Nf3 Nf6 5.e3 Nbd7 6.Bd3 Be7 7.0-0 Qc7 8.Bd2 0-0 9.Rc1 Re8 10.cxd5 exd5 11.Qc2 Nb6 12.Rfe1 Bd6 13.e4 dxe4 14.Nxe4 Nxe4 15.Bxe4 g6 16.Bh6 Bg4 17.h3 Bxf3 18.Bxf3 Bf4 19.Bxf4 Qxf4 20.Qd3 Re6 21.Rxe6 Qxc1+ 22.Kh2 fxe6 23.Qe2 Re8 24.g3 Qc4 25.b3 Qxe2 26.Bxe2 Rd8 27.Bg4 Kf7 28.Kg2 Rxd4 29.Kf3 Rd2 30.Ke3 Rxa2 31.h4 Rb2 32.Bd1 Nd5+ 33.Kd4 Rxf2 34.Ke5 Ke7 35.Kd4 Rd2+ 36.Ke4 Rxd1 37.Kf3 Rd3+ 38.Kg4 Rxb3 39.h5 Nf6+ 40.Kg5 Rxg3+ 41.Kh4 Rg1 42.hxg6 hxg6 43.Kh3 Rg4 44.Kh2 Kd6 45.Kh3 Ke5 46.Kh2 Kf4 47.Kh3 Kf3 48.Kh2 Rg5 49.Kh1 Kf2 50.Kh2 Rh5# 0-1

Italian Game: Hungarian Defense
Denker Qualifier
W: Henry Cao (1883)
B: Brad Schlosser (1870)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Bc5 4.d3 d6 5.h3 Be6 6.Bb3 Nf6 7.Nc3 d5 8.exd5 Nxd5 9.Nxd5 Bxd5 10.Be3 Bxe3 11.fxe3 e4 12.dxe4 Bxe4 13.0-0 0-0 14.Qe2 Qe7 15.Nd2 Bg6 16.c3 Rfe8 17.Rae1 Rad8 18.Rf2 Ne5 19.Rd1 Nd3 20.Rf3 Nxb2 21.Re1 Nd3 22.Rd1 Ne5 23.Rf2 Qc5 24.Nf3 0-1

English Opening
Denker Qualifier
W: Steven Rand (1639)
B: James Koppel (1081)

1.c4 e5 2.g3 d6 3.Bg2 Be6 4.Bxb7 Nd7 5.d3 Rb8 6.Bg2 Ngf6 7.Nf3 h6 8.Nc3 c6 9.0-0 d5 10.cxd5 cxd5 11.Nd2 Bc5 12.a3 a5 13.Rb1 0-0 14.h3 Re8 15.Qc2 Qc7 16.Kh2 Qc6 17.Na4 Rbc8 18.Nxc5 Nxc5 19.b4 Qa4 20.Qxa4 Nxa4 21.bxa5 Nc3 22.Rb7 Nxe2 23.Bb2 Nd7 24.Re1 Rb8 25.a6 Rxb7 26.axb7 Nd4 27.Bxd4 exd4 28.Bxd5 Kf8 29.Bxe6 Rxe6 30.Rxe6 fxe6 31.Nb3 Ke7 32.Nxd4 1-0

French Defense
Denker Qualifier
W: Frank Smith (1882)
B: Austin Gantner (1303)

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.Nf3 Nc6 7.Be3 Qb6 8.Bb5 cxd4 9.Nxd4 Bc5 10.Na4 Qc7 11.Nxc5 Nxd4 12.Bxd7+ Bxd7 13.Bxd4 Rc8 14.c3 Bb5 15.Qb3 Bc6 16.0-0 b6 17.Nd3 Qd7 18.Rf3 0-0 19.Qc2 Rc7 20.Nf2 Qe7 21.Rh3 f5 22.exf6 gxf6 23.Ng4 e5 24.fxe5 fxe5 25.Nxe5 1-0

Scotch Game
Denker Qualifier
W: Alex Esposito (1367)
B: Henry Cao (1883)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 exd4 4.Nxd4 Bc5 5.Be3 Nxd4 6.Bxd4 Bxd4 7.Qxd4 Qf6 8.Qxf6 Nxf6 9.Nc3 d6 10.Nd5 Nxd5 11.exd5 Bf5 12.0-0-0 Kd7 13.Bd3 Bg6 14.Bxg6 hxg6 15.h3 Rae8 16.Rde1 Re5 17.Rxe5 dxe5 18.Re1 Kd6 [18...f6] 19.c4 f5 20.b4 Rh4 21.g4 fxg4 22.Re4 g5 23.hxg4 Rh2 24.Re2 Rg2 25.Kd2 Rxg4 26.Kd3 Rf4 [26...Rd4+] 27.Rc2 g4 28.Ke3 g5 29.Kd3 g3 30.fxg3 Rf3+ 31.Ke4 Rxg3 32.c5+ Kd7 33.Kxe5 Rg4 34.b5 b6 35.c6+ Ke7 36.d6+ Kd8 [36...cxd6+ 37.Kf5 Rf4+ 38.Kxg5 Rf8] 37.d7 Rf4 38.Rg2 Rb4 39.Rf2 Ke7 40.Rf7+ Kxf7 41.d8Q 1-0

Sicilian Defense
Denker Qualifier
W: Jospeh Bridgman (905)
B: Keegan Barrett (1140)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.Bc4 g6 5.e5 dxe5 6.Nxe5 e6 7.Qf3 Bg7 8.d3 0-0 9.Bg5 h6 10.Bh4 g5 11.Bg3 Nbd7 12.Ne4 Nxe4 13.Qxe4 Qb6 14.0-0-0 f5 15.Qe2 f4 16.h4 Nxe5 17.hxg5 Nxc4 18.dxc4 Qxb2+ 19.Kd2 Qc3+ 20.Kc1 Qb2+ 21.Kd2 Bc3+ 22.Kd3 Be5 23.Qe4 Qd4+ 24.Qxd4 Bxd4 25.Bxf4 Rxf4 26. gxh6 Kh7 27.Rdg1 Rxf2 28.g4 e5 29.g5 Bf5# 0-1

Italian Game
Polgar Qualifier
W: Nicole Hulsey (681)
B: Jennifer Flynn (911)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Nc3 Bb4 5.d3 0-0 6.0-0 d6 7.Be3 Bg4 8.a3 Bc5 9.Bxc5 dxc5 10.Qe2 Nd4 11.Qd1 Bxf3 12.gxf3 Nh5 13.f4 Nxf4 14.Kh1 Qg5 15.Rg1 Qh4 16.Na4 Nh3 17.Rg2 Nxf2+ 18.Rxf2 Qxf2 19.Qg4 Kh8 20.Rg1 g6 21.Nxc5 Nf3 22.Qh3 Qxg1# 0-1

Ruy Lopez
Denker Qualifier
W: Jon Mura (935)
B: Henry Cao (1883)

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 Bc5 4.0-0 d6 5.c3 Bd7 6.Re1 Nge7 7.d3 0-0 8.Be3 Bb6 9.Nbd2 h6 10.Nc4 Bxe3 11.Rxe3 f5 12.exf5 Nxf5 13.Re1 a6 14.Ba4 b5 15.Bb3 bxc4 16.Bxc4+ Kh7 17.d4 exd4 18.cxd4 Qf6 19.d5 Ncd4 20.Bd3 g6 21.Rc1 Nh4 22.Rxc7 Nhxf3+ 23.gxf3 Nxf3+ 24.Kh1 Qd8 25.Bxg6+ Kxg6 26.Qd3+ Rf5 27.Rc4 Qg5 28.h3 Ne5 29.Rxe5 dxe5 30.Rg4 Rc8 31.Rxg5+ Kxg5 32.Qe3+ Kg6 33.h4 Rcf8 34.h5+ Rxh5+ 35.Kg2 Rhf5 36.Qb6+ R8f6 37.Qd8 Rxf2+ 38.Kg1 Rf1+ 39.Kg2 R6f2+ 40.Kg3 Rf3+ 41.Kh2 Bh3 42.Qd6+ Kf5 43.Qe6+ Ke4 44.Qg6+ Kxd5 45.Qg8+ Ke4 46.Qg6+ Bf5 47.Qxa6 R1f2+ 48.Kg1 Bh3 49.Qg6+ Kf4 50.Qxh6+ Kg3 51.Qg5+ Bg4 52.Qxe5+ Rf4 53.Qe3+ R2f3 54.Qe1+ Kh3 55.a3 Rg3+ 56.Qxg3+ Kxg3 0-1

Sicilian Defense
Denker Qualifier
W: Alex Esposito (1367)
B: Nathaniel Johnson (1399)

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 g6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nc6 5.Nc3 Bg7 6.Be3 d6 7.f4 Nf6 8.Bd3 Bg4 9.Nf3 d5 10.e5 d4 11.exf6 Bxf6 12.Ne4 dxe3 13.Nxf6+ exf6 14.0-0 0-0 15.h3 Bd7 16.Qe1 Qb6 17.b3 Rfe8 18.Qg3 Nb4 19.Ne1 Nxd3 20.Nxd3 Bf5 21.Nb2 Qd4 22.Nc4 Rad8 23.Rfe1 e2+ 24.Kh2 Qxa1 25.Rxa1 Rd1 26.Qe1 Rxa1 27.Qxa1 e1Q 28.Qxf6 Qe6 29.Qh4 Bxc2 30.Qh6 Qf6 31.Ne5 Be4 32.Ng4 Qf5 33.Qh4 Qxf4+ 34.Kg1 g5 35.Qh6 Bg6 0-1

The Missouri Chess Bulletin Needs Your Games!!
Submit your latest over the board masterpiece (or any other interesting battle) to bdhowe@yahoo.com.

MISSOURI'S TOP PLAYERS

1	IM Michael A Brooks	2423
2	Charles Lawton	2358
3	Bart F Gibbons	2256
4	Kenneth E Jones	2232
5	Loal W Davis	2227
6	Thomas G Gossell	2213
7	Ronald G Luther	2204
8	Bob Holliman	2202
9	Richard Benjamin	2200
10	Andrew Witte	2158
11	Tomislav Juricic	2144
12	James R Voelker	2137
13	James Mclaughlin	2132
14	Robert Merton Jacobs	2103
15	Kenneth P Thomas	2097
16	Richard Wagner	2068
17	Waldo Odak	2050
18	Kevin Dale Johnson	2029
19	James A Davies	2023
20	Jeremy Volkmann	2022
21	Nathaniel Fast	2014
22	Pranav Akolkar	2010
23	Paul W Cornelison	2000
24	Kevin Cao	1996
25	Daniel R Huff	1994
26	Nick Karlow	1984
27	Randy Giminez	1959
28	Jeff Van Order	1956
29	Dan Roberts	1943
30	Nathan Swinger	1943
31	Josh Frank	1933
32	Dwight Beasley	1922
33	Selden Trimble	1921
34	Karl Cosner	1918
35	Darius Masuhud	1897
36	Robert Taras	1895
37	Daniel Juengel	1893
38	Renzo Herrera	1892
39	Kenneth E Fee Jr	1889
40	Tim B Blaco	1886
41	Joseph A Garnier	1885
42	Frank Smith	1882
43	Edil Karabiev	1878
44	Brad Schlosser	1871
45	John R Boyer	1865
46	Al Howlett	1858
47	Steven Bange	1853
48	Jialin Ding	1843
49	Mark Cogley	1840
50	John Quimby	1830
51	Daniel Coryea	1829
52	Henry Cao	1826
53	Isaiah Gadson	1814
54	Tony Dutiel	1813
55	Behrooz Vakil	1808
56	Matthew Barrett	1805
57	Stephen Landrum	1800
58	William Tong	1797
59	Larry Darst	1785
60	Tom Epplin-Zapf	1780
61	Alex Marler	1778
62	Thomas R Rehmeier	1765
63	Timothy Nesham	1765
64	Tony Rich	1757
65	Chris Hunt	1743

MISSOURIANS ON USCF TOP 100 LISTS

Overall	IM Michael Brooks (2423)	91st
Postal	Robert Jacobs (2395)	15th
	Laurence Anderson (2308)	36th
	Harry Ingersol (2253)	56th
	Barry Walker (2193)	91st
Over 65	Robert Jacobs (2103)	48th
Age 18	Nick W. Karlow (1984)	46th
	Frank H. Smith (1882)	73rd
Age 16	Brad Schlosser (1871)	63rd
	Henry Cao (1826)	79th
Age 13	Isaiah Gadson (1814)	47th
	Vikram A Arun (1650)	100th
Age 12	Kevin Y. Cao (1996)	8th
	Jialin Ding (1843)	32nd
Age 11	William Tong (1678)	26th
Age 10	Margaret M.Hua (1546)	48th
Girls Under 13	Margaret M. Hua (1546)	28th
	Keturah Gadson (1232)	82nd
Girls Under 16	Joanna Gossell (1490)	68th
	Jonht Bechthold (1482)	72nd

USCF top 100 lists, — April 2009

66	Brian Gahagan	1736
67	Allen Bishop	1733
68	Jose Clarin	1729
69	William Starnes	1727
70	Brian Jerauld	1725
71	Jonathan Shure	1725
72	Joe Piotrowski	1723
73	Brad Herbst	1710
74	Gunthar Kellotat	1700
75	Spencer Conklin	1700
76	Jacob Wilkins	1690
77	Joseph C Conklin	1688
78	Shan Siddiqi	1683
79	Ryan D Mc Culla	1681
80	William Thompson	1677
81	Justin G. M. Hull	1677
82	Linu John Alex	1675
83	Roger Pagel	1669
84	Robert Talbot	1651
85	Vikram Arun	1650
86	Steven Rand	1649
87	Bob Howe	1648
88	Edward M Hollander	1647
89	Matthew Angeli	1644
90	Raymond Kurczynski	1638
91	Ricky Nunn	1636
92	Matt Schoen	1636
93	Richard Pope	1632
94	Cody Ruggles	1629
95	Michael Kummer	1628
96	Donald Hutto	1628
97	Daniel Todd	1626
98	Steve Korenblat	1624
99	Timothy Boyd	1623
100	Mike Clark	1622
100	Aleksey Kazakevich	1622

USCF April Supplement -Active in Past 12 Months

Regional Chess Clubs

SAINT LOUIS AREA CLUBS :

Delmar Loop Chess Club: Location: St. Louis Bread Company 6630 Delmar Ave. (U-City) Chess played every night 6-9pm Most players come on weekends. Contact: Joseph Garnier at <chessoholic@sbcglobal.net>

Indian Trails Branch Library: Location: St. Louis County Library 8400 Delport Drive (314) 428-5424 Meets: Tuesdays 3:30 PM. Contact:any library employee

Saint Louis Chess Club and Scholastic Center: 4657 Maryland Ave. Saint Louis. For club information and tournament schedule, see http://saintlouischessclub.org, (314) 361-CHESS or contact Tony Rich, <trich@tonyrich.org>, Mon-closed, T-W 3-10pm,, Th-F 3-11pm, Sat 12-11pm, Sun 12-10pm

Saint Peters Chess Club: Location: St. Peters. 235 Salt Lick Road, St. Peters. Meets: Friday nights starting at 6pm. Contact: Tim Nesham at <tim.nesham@gmail.com>

Sunset Hills Parks & Recreation Activities Center: 12450 West Watson Road, Thursday 10am-2pm. (314) 842-7265

KANSAS CITY AREA CLUBS:

Heart of America Chess Association: Location: Noland Baptist Church 4505 S Noland Rd., Independence, MO 64055. Meets: Friday Nights 7-11pm. There are no fees or charges to play, this club is for the community. Contact: Bob Holliman at (816) 836-0568 or <chess_entries@comcast.net>

Kansas City (KS) Public Library: Location: 625 Minnesota, Kansas City KS. Meets: Wednesdays 5:30-8:00 PM Contact: Brooke Leavitt at (913) 551-3280

The Chess Club: Location: 7667 NW Prairie View Rd, Kansas City, MO 64151. Website: http://www.powerpawn.net

Westport Chess Club: Location: Westport Flea Market at 817 Westport Rd., Kansas City, MO 64111 (just east of the intersection of SW Trafficway and Westport Rd.) year-round basis. Tuesday's 6:30-11:00 PM $2 fee adults, $1 under 18 Contact: Bill Mendus <wmendus@swbell.net>

CLUBS IN OTHER AREAS OF MISSOURI:

Columbia -- University of Missouri Chess Club: Location: Memorial Union (518 Hitt Street) Room S203 May-August: Lakota's Coffee, 24 S. Ninth St. Mondays 7-10pm. Contact: Charles Ward at <czar8196@tranquility.net> Website: http://www.students.missouri.edu/~muchess

Jefferson City -- Jefferson City Chess Club: http://jcchess.org/ Contact Tim Boyd—tboyd66@embarqmail.com or (573) 635-6299.

Joplin -- Joplin Chess Club: http://www.joplinchess.org Contact Martin Stahl—martin.stahl@joplinchess.org

Mineral Area Chess Club: Location: Tourist Center on the Mineral Area College Campus in Park Hills. Monday Nights from 7-9pm. Contact: James Lyon at (573) 756-6009, or by e-mail at <jaaalyon@sbcglobal.net>

Rolla -- MS&T Chess Club: Location: Havener Center, Walnut Room, 1346 N. Bishop Ave., Rolla, MO 65401. Meets: Wednesdays 7 PM. Student President: Thomas Rehmeier at <trrthf@mst.edu> Info: Selden Trimble at <strimble@rollanet.org>

Springfield -- MO State University Chess Club: Location: Plaster Student Union, room 317-A. Meeting hours: Mondays 7-10pm. Contact: Nick Beatty at <Nbeatty@missouristate.edu>
Website: http://www.organizations.missouristate.edu/chess

Springfield -- Springfield Park Board Chess Club: Location:Southside Senior Center 2215 S. Fremont Ave., Springfield, MO Meets: Friday 6:30 to 11PM USCF-rated events. Contact: Jim Baumlin at (417) 831-6585
Website: http://www.geocities.com/SpringfieldChessClub

Missouri State Champions

9-Time Missouri State Champion
Life Master Ronald G. Luther

MO Open Champion
LM Bob Holliman

Denker Champion
Brad Schlosser

2008 Class Champions

Master/Exp	Ronald G. Luther Kevin Dale Johnson
Class A	Daniel R. Huff
Class B	Timothy C. Nesham
Class C	Cody B. Ruggles
Class D	Tim V. Campbell Stephen G. Easton
Class E	Austin Madenwald
Novice	Ashwath S. Kumar

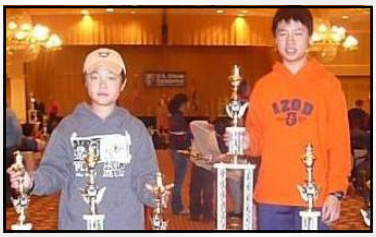
Reserve Champion
Jialin Ding

HS Championship Team
Rockhurst High School

Polgar Champion
Margaret Hua

Quick Champion
Kevin Cao

Blitz Champion
LM Ronald Luther



Bughouse Champions
Kevin & Henry Cao

For a complete history of Missouri Champions, visit www.mochess.org & click the Champions Link.

Missouri Chess Hall of Fame

Mr. James A. Davies
Inducted: 2000

Mr. Donald Oswald
Inducted: 2001

Mr. Robert M. Jacobs
Inducted: 2002

IM Michael A. Brooks
Inducted: 2003

Chess, like any creative activity, can exist only through the combined efforts of those who have creative talent, and those who have the ability to organize their creative work.

-Mikhail Botvinnik

Mr. Robert H. Steinmeyer
Inducted: 2006

Mr. John V. Ragan
Inducted: 2008

Mr. William H. Wright
Inducted: 2009

Missouri Chess Association
Bulletin Editor
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Columbia, MO 65203

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